

Prince comes home with 'the People's Princess'



The Prince of Wales with the Princess's sisters, Lady Sarah McCorquodale and Lady Jane Fellowes, at the Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital in Paris. Behind them are President and Mme Chirac

Palace considers full state funeral as the world mourns

BY CHARLES BREMNER AND STEPHEN FARRELL IN PARIS AND ALAN HAMILTON AND PHILIP WEBSTER IN LONDON

A SOMBRE Prince of Wales flew home from Paris with the body of his former wife Diana, Princess of Wales, last night to prepare for official mourning and a possible state funeral.

The Prince was met at RAF Northolt by the Prime Minister — who had earlier spoken of his utter devastation at the death of the "People's Princess" — and then returned to Balmoral to comfort his sons.

Thousands of mourners surrounded the Paris hospital where the 36-year-old Princess died early yesterday after a car crash which also killed her companion Dodi Fayed and their French chauffeur. Thousands more gathered outside Buckingham and Kensington Palaces to leave flowers by the railings, as political leaders across the globe paid tribute to one of the world's best-known and most admired women.

The Prince had flown to Paris from Balmoral accompanied by the Princess's two elder sisters, Lady Jane Fellowes and Lady Sarah McCorquodale. At the Pitié-Salpêtrière hospital, where the entrance was piled high with flowers, the Prince was greeted by President Chirac. The two men shook hands and went inside.



The Princess and Dodi Fayed: their car was doing up to 120 mph when it crashed

The Prince and the Princess's sisters were in the hospital for just under half an hour, spending a few minutes alone with the coffin in a first-floor room of the casualty unit before meeting four surgeons and four nurses who had tried to save her. The body was carried from the hospital by four pallbearers, the coffin draped in a Royal Standard, before being placed in a hearse and driven to the airport.

Buckingham Palace is expected to announce details of the funeral today, and is considering calls for a full state funeral, normally reserved only for heads of state. The Palace was involved in discussions with the Princess's family and Downing Street was also consulted, although sources said it was a matter for the Palace and the family. There were indications last night that there would be a state funeral, but arrangements may be made for a

private interment to be attended only by the Princess's family.

News of the princess's death stunned a Britain awakening to its Sunday breakfast. Radio and television stations scrapped their schedules and substituted continuous news programmes, and even radio stations which normally pump out a staple diet of rock and pop switched to sombre music. Sporting fixtures were

called for new privacy laws to protect people in public life from unwarranted intrusion, and for newspaper proprietors to order their publications to stop paying for photographs of the kind that were being sought by a pack of paparazzi said to be pursuing the Princess's car. But ministers made plain that there would be no rush into legislation, and Tony Blair's preference for self-regulation is expected to be maintained. It was pointed out that the tough French privacy laws had been powerless to prevent the tragedy happening on French soil.

French police spent all day yesterday questioning seven freelance photographers, six French and one of Macedonian origin, who had been following the Princess's Mercedes when it hurtled into a concrete barrier in a tunnel on the Right Bank Expressway near the river Seine. Police sources said they expected a criminal investigation to be

opened, possibly over charges of leaving the scene of an accident.

The fatal crash happened just after midnight London time, as the Princess and Mr Fayed were being driven from dinner at the Ritz Hotel, owned by Mr Fayed's father, Mohamed al Fayed. Surgeons tried for more than two hours to save the Princess, who had suffered massive internal injuries, but she was pronounced dead at 4 am.

The Prince, who was on holiday at Balmoral with the Queen and other members of the Royal Family, was woken by a telephone call informing him of the accident. When a further call confirmed that the Princess had died, he woke his sons Prince William and Prince Harry, and broke the news to them. Mr Blair, who had been told of the accident by the British Embassy in Paris, was among the first to telephone Balmoral to offer condolences.

As Mr Blair went to church in his Sedgefield constituency yesterday, he described Diana as the People's Princess, and said that that was how she would stay in the hearts and memories of the British people forever.

Buckingham Palace yesterday issued a statement saying: "The Queen and the Prince of Wales are deeply shocked and distressed by this terrible news."

Earl Spencer, the Princess's brother, minced no words in blaming the media for his sister's death. From his home in Cape Town, he said that every editor and proprietor who had paid for intrusive and exploitative photographs of the princess, encouraging ruthless and greedy individuals to risk everything in pursuit of her, had blood on their hands.

Despite the appalling news,



Pallbearers carry the Princess's coffin draped with the Royal Standard at Northolt

the Royal Family went to morning service as usual at Crathie Kirk outside the Balmoral gates. Prince William and Harry, outwardly calm, filed into the small granite church along with their father, the Queen and Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother.

At lunchtime the Prince of Wales drove himself to Aberdeen airport to board a BAe 146 aircraft of the Royal

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Timetable of events

Saturday, 3:00pm:

The Princess and Dodi Fayed arrive at Le Bourget airport, Paris, on a private jet after a week's holiday, cruising in the Mediterranean. They had cut short the holiday to escape the Italian paparazzi.

5:30pm:

The French paparazzi learn about the celebrated couple's arrival in Paris. They begin gathering outside the hotel and stake out the Fayed flat off the Champs Elysées.

8:30pm:

Photographers spot the couple shopping on the Champs Elysées.

11:00pm:

The couple arrive at the hotel for dinner, where a gang of 40 photographers has assembled.

12:15am:

They attempt to leave undetected by going out of the hotel through a rear entrance in Rue Cambon which is not used by hotel guests. They clamber into the back of a waiting dark blue Mercedes 600SEL. A second car, which acts as a decoy, drives off in the opposite direction. Both cars are followed by the photographers.

12:16am:

The Princess and Mr Fayed begin their last fatal journey together driving west at high speed on the expressway alongside the River Seine. They are in the rear of the car. A chauffeur and British born Ritz security guard are in the front.

12:20am:

They are pursued by up to seven photographers on motorcycles and in cars as they head, at reported speeds of up to 100 mph, en route for a private townhouse in western Paris where they plan to spend the night before returning to Britain later in the day.

12:25am:

The Mercedes enters a tunnel alongside the River Seine

under the Place de l'Alma, in Paris's eighth district. The car goes out of control, collides with a wall, Dodi Fayed and the driver were killed instantly.

12:27am:

An eye witness telephones the police with news of the car crash.

12:35am:

The French emergency services arrive at the accident scene where Mr Fayed is pronounced dead. Doctors attempt to revive the Princess.

12:40am:

The police inform the British Embassy that the Princess has been involved in a crash.

12:45am:

The news is broken to the Prince of Wales in a telephone call from a British diplomat in Paris. The Prince is holidaying with the Royal Family at Balmoral.

12:50am:

Mohamed Al Fayed, the owner of Harrods, is

telephoned at his country estate to be told his son has been involved in a serious crash.

01:10am:

Mr Al Fayed takes a second call from the British diplomat at the hospital. He is told that Dodi is dead.

01:50am:

The Princess is lifted from the wreckage. The gravity of her injuries is not clear. Her heart has stopped beating.

02:00am:

Tony Blair is telephoned in his Sedgefield constituency to be told about the accident.

02:00am:

The Princess arrives at La Pitié Salpêtrière hospital, the biggest in Paris, with massive chest injuries and haemorrhaging.

02:05am:

Sir Michael Jay, the British ambassador in Paris, rushes to the hospital immediately on being informed of the accident by the French authorities.

LAURENT REBOURS/AP

Death scene haunted by a sense of unreality

BY CHARLES BREMNER, ADAM SAGE AND PAT PRENTICE

PARIS

ON A sunny Sunday, one day before France's return to post-holiday work, a sense of unreality pervaded. Paris as radio and television broadcast special reports and hundreds of citizens gathered outside the Left Bank hospital and visited the scene of the accident. Others waited at the Quai des Orfèvres, the headquarters of the criminal police, or the bank of the Seine.

First reports from witnesses described a dash in which the black limousine, the biggest Mercedes made and a type favoured by heads of state, tried to shake off photographers who had followed it from the Ritz, on the Place Vendôme. Photographers had trailed the Princess and Dodi Fayed since soon after the pair had landed at Le Bourget airport on a Fayed aircraft earlier in the afternoon. The couple had left the Ritz for Mr Fayed's house in Paris's sixteenth district at about a quarter past midnight, driven by a security official from the Ritz and accompanied by one of the Fayed bodyguards.

They had changed cars from a Range Rover in an apparent attempt to shake off the pack of about 40 photographers dogging their move-

ments. Marcela Cavazos, 24, who was walking past the Ritz, said she saw a convoy of cars, led by Mr Fayed's Range Rover, leaving in an apparent decoy manoeuvre. "Then someone on a motorbike roared up and said to some photographers, 'she's left from the side entrance. Let's go,' Señora Cavazos, who works at the Mexican Embassy in London, said.

A photographer, who asked not to be named, said: "Half of us followed the Range Rover, and the rest followed the Mercedes. But it was going so fast that only those with the best motorcycles could keep up with it."

Apparently pursued by motorcycles, the Mercedes accelerated to what police estimated to be about 90 mph on the straight leading from the Place de la Concorde. At high speed, the driver appeared to have lost control as the car entered a bend at the entrance to the underpass under the Alma bridge, the police said. The car smashed headlong into a pillar, stoving in its long bonnet, apparently forcing the engine into the

passenger compartment. The two-ton vehicle then slammed into the walls of the underpass. Passing drivers alerted the police at 27 minutes after midnight.

Mr Fayed, sitting in the back with the Princess, was killed instantly, along with the driver, ambulance officials said. Gary Dean, 38, an interior designer from London, said he saw the car seconds before it crashed as it entered the tunnel, travelling, he believed, at about 100 mph. "I thought to myself, this car is going too fast for safety. It hurried past me. After it entered the tunnel I heard a crash followed by a series of thuds. I suppose where it hit the pillars."

Mr Dean said he did not see any photographers on the car's tail. But by the time police had arrived, five minutes later, there was a "melle" of photographers around it.

Police found photographers at the scene of the crash and detained seven, some of whom are freelance. Others are employed by news agencies. They also took in four other witnesses for questioning. Angry passers-by attacked one photographer who was taking a picture of the mangled car.

Police were reported to be investigating the possibility that the driver might have been distracted by the presence of photographers in a vehicle ahead of the Fayed car. Local officers said it was near inconceivable that a car could have kept on the road travelling into the curving underpass at such high speed. The dangerous stretch of road has been the scene of at least two fatal accidents in recent years.

As first aid and fire units started trying to cut the occupants free from the vehicle, the French Government was alerted to their identity. The British Embassy was contacted. Alerted in England, Mohamed Al Fayed left for Paris.

It took 90 minutes for the firemen to cut through the roof of the limousine and extract the Princess and the bodyguard. She was found to have head injuries and to be bleeding heavily from the chest.

A reanimation unit tried on the spot to massage her failing heart into life. After 30 minutes she was taken at about two am to the Pitié Salpêtrière hospital on the Left Bank, where a team led by Dr Bruno Riou, head of the intensive care unit, fought in vain to save her life.

"Her chest cavity was urgently opened up, revealing a significant wound to her left pulmonary vein," Dr Riou said. "The group of mourners and sightseers began appearing outside the British Embassy, on the rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, and others gathered at the entrance to the Alma underpass, which had been re-



Lady Jane Fellowes, left, and Lady Sarah McCorquodale, sisters of the Princess, leaving the hospital in Paris after going to collect the body

said. "Despite a closure of the wound and an external and internal cardiac massage lasting two hours, no effective circulation could be re-established and death was noted at 4am."

By the time of her death, a caravan of satellite trucks and a forest of television cameras had begun assembling outside the white-fronted hospital. By dawn, with an army of police in attendance, the first mourners had begun leaving flowers by the marble pillar carrying the hospital's nameplate.

While French television and radio began transmitting a day of special programmes on the Princess, Lionel Jospin, the French Prime Minister, arrived to pay his respects with Bernadette Chirac, the wife of the President. M Jospin, who flew back from La Rochelle, said he had been profoundly saddened that "this beautiful young woman, loved by the people, and whose every act and gesture was scrutinised, should end her life tragically in France."

Groups of mourners and sightseers began appearing outside the British Embassy, on the rue du Faubourg Saint-Honoré, and others gathered at the entrance to the Alma underpass, which had been re-

opened to traffic soon after dawn. By mid-morning, there were more than 100 people at the scene of the accident, among them Daniel Klein, 27, a French financial consultant, who arrived carrying a single red rose.

"This is my homage to a wonderful person," he said as he suspended his flower above the single red rose.

The crowd outside the hospital rose to well over 1,000 and the flowers piled up at the makeshift shrine at the gate. The satellite dishes had swollen to a sea of indignation

towards the press was fuelled by harsh French radio and television commentary on the low tactics of the "British gutter press". France Inter, the government station, said British tabloid talk of reform was like "a rubbish bin deciding to clean itself."

"You are a bunch of murderers," shouted a woman on the Boulevard de l'Hôpital as a gagle of Fleet Street photographers sat in the sunshine at a cafe table.

All day commentators deplored the destiny which had led "Lady Di" as she is still

known in France, to meet her fate in their country. Her summer adventure with le milliardaire égyptien had become public when she appeared with him on the family yacht at St Tropez.

Many French saw their country as a refuge for Diana, where she could enjoy peace from the British media, just as the Duke of Windsor had chosen Paris as his exile home.

Mr Fayed suffered from none of the controversy that his father suffers in British eyes. The father's recent refurbishment of the Duke of

Windsor's house on the Bois de Boulogne had recently won acclaim. "The tragic princess has been united in death with her lover," said a radio commentator. "How terrible it should have happened in France."

Valéry Giscard d'Estaing, the former President, struck the most poetic note. The life of the princess "had followed a dazzling trajectory, such as the kind that one sometimes sees in the sky, from the innocence of childhood to coronation, world celebrity, to death in the absurd carnage of an accident."

President Chirac ordered that France would give its most royal send-off to the Princess. A company of the Republican Guard in full dress regalia was on hand to provide military honours when the Prince of Wales and the Princess's two sisters arrived at the hospital early in the evening to accompany her body by car to Villacoublay airport and then back to London.

The French President was seen to wipe away a tear as the cortège left the hospital. Elisabeth Guigou, the Minister of Justice, announced that a formal criminal investigation had been opened.

CAUSE OF DEATH

THE Princess died as a result of a torn pulmonary vein (Dr Thomas Shattock writes). The pulmonary veins, two from the right and three from the left, are large vessels carrying the oxygenated blood from the lungs to the heart.

The extreme blood loss that would follow a lacerated vein, the pulmonary congestion and difficulty in respiration - together with the loss of an adequate supply of oxygenated blood to the heart and all the

other essential organs - caused cardiac arrest, the immediate cause of death.

Despite the heroic and prolonged efforts of the surgeons at La Pitié Salpêtrière hospital, who had already dealt with the haemorrhage from the torn pulmonary vein, circulation could not be restarted and they had to admit defeat and declare that their patient had died.

The accident might have had a happier ending if the initial story that the Princess

had been able to walk from the wreckage of her car had been correct.

As it is, it seems that the Princess was knocked unconscious immediately and that it took some time to rescue her from the vehicle. If the Princess had reached the surgeons earlier they could have immediately stanched the bleeding from the pulmonary vein, the heart might not have arrested, and she would have had a chance of making a recovery.

THE SURVIVOR

al team. Trevor is a good lad, good at his job," said Mohamed Al Fayed and his family are protected by teams of security men recruited from the SAS, the Parachute Regiment, the Royal Marines and the Royal Military Police. All have seen active service with the British Army in many parts of the world

including Northern Ireland, Colombia, the Falklands and the Gulf. "They all know the sound of gunfire and what to do if there is trouble," a former team member said. "Tragically in this situation there was nothing Trevor could do to protect his boss. However he is the only witness and, hopefully, will be able to tell the police what happened."

He was understood to have seen active service in Northern Ireland and the Gulf War and to have escaped from Kuwait as the Iraqis invaded. A former colleague said last night: "He was Dodi's shadow, part of his person-

tions, stood along the narrow avenue beneath two lines of plane trees, while others leaned over staircase railings and looked out of fourth-floor windows.

A small number of British and French journalists were led discreetly through back streets to a rear entrance where they were vetted and admitted by soldiers as nervous officials, sensitive to strong public feelings about journalists in the wake of the Princess's death, ushered the party in quickly. Even so, the journalists were greeted with howls of anger and shouts of "assassins" from the crowd.

The mood quickly calmed as the medical staff appeared, led by the

anaesthetist Professor Bruno Riou, and Professor Alain Pavie, the thoracic and cardiac surgeon. Professor Pierre Coriat, head of the hospital anaesthetist unit, and Professor Jean Pierre Benetaz, the emergency orthopaedic trauma surgeon, were also there. The Prince of Wales arrived at 4.40pm in a green Jaguar with a Royal pennant. In the car with him were the British Ambassador to Paris Sir Michael Jay, the Prince's bodyguard and an embassy driver. In the second car were Lady Jane and Lady Sarah with Lady Jay.

The Prince of Wales, wearing a blue suit and black tie, was greeted by M Chirac and walked quickly

up the few steps into the building followed by the Princess's sisters, a military attaché and officials. The Prince, apparently in a state of shock, swallowed hard as he went in. In all they spent 26 minutes inside, going straight to the first floor where the coffin was. Aides insisted the body had already been formally identified by an embassy official and their decision to view the body was a personal choice.

At 5.06pm the Prince of Wales's body was carried out slowly, proceeded by the Rev Martin Draper, of St George's Anglican Cathedral in Paris, and two officials.

The four pallbearers were followed by two men each carrying bouquets of lilies and gladioli. The Prince of Wales emerged from the building after his former wife's coffin had been put into the steel blue Rivage hearse on which the blinds had been drawn. Silence descended on the crowd as the Prince strode out, looking neither to right nor left, towards his Jaguar. The cavalcade then moved off in a hail of sirens and flashing lights. When it had gone, officials bundled a black-draped coffin trolley and personal effects into a dark car and followed the convoy. Few present remained unmoved by the sight of the Princess of Wales's last journey home. One Elysée official, who had been up

since the early hours making arrangements with members of the Prince and Mr Fayed's households, shook his head and muttered "Quel jour, quelle horreur".

French authorities last night blamed the crash on high speed, and had no hesitation in linking it to the photographers pursuing the Princess's car on motorcycles. Some unconfirmed reports said that the black Mercedes 600 had been travelling at 120 mph when it hit a concrete barrier inside the tunnel. One witness said that it had taken 15 minutes for emergency services to arrive, and during that time the one police officer on the scene made no attempt to rescue

the car's occupants. By last night the authorities had still not named the French driver of the car, who was killed outright along with Mr Fayed. The only survivor was Trevor Rhys-Jones, a bodyguard employed by Mohamed Al-Fayed, who was said to be in a critical condition.

Bernard Darteville, a lawyer acting for Mr Al-Fayed, told a television interviewer that he would bring a civil suit as soon as a judicial inquiry into the deaths had opened. He did not say at whom the suit would be targeted, but he strongly criticised photographers for their recent hounding of the couple.

Nurses, ancillary staff and pa-

tronage, stood along the narrow avenue beneath two lines of plane trees, while others leaned over staircase railings and looked out of fourth-floor windows.

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Carpet of flowers stretches from palaces at dawn of mourning

Thousands
went to share
their tears and
anger as the
news began to
spread, reports
Adam Fresco

THOUSANDS OF mourners gathered at Buckingham and Kensington palaces from early morning as people learnt of the tragedy in Paris. In widespread displays of grief, men and women wept openly while others sat quietly on the ground with their head in their hands. All had a look of disbelief etched on their faces.

People returning home from nightclubs and parties and those on their way to work were among the first to stop at the gates of Buckingham Palace to pay their respects. One carload of students arrived, each carrying a single red rose to place by the railings.

Hundreds of bunches of flowers were placed by mourners, some just small children, too young to understand the enormity of the occasion, as well as candles and poems.

A bouquet made up of dozens of white lilies and red roses, accompanied by a picture of a young female landmine victim, was delivered with the message: "On behalf of landmine victims throughout the world. Your dedication and courage will never be forgotten."

As the media presence grew, some of the crowd began to blame them for the death of the Princess. At her London home, a passing bus driver shouted: "Leave her alone, she's dead now."

The large crowd clapped in unison when one angry onlooker began a tirade against waiting photographers, shouting: "The press killed her. You killed her, you bunch of vultures." At Buckingham Palace the same sentiments were expressed.

Rena Braich, 26, a student from London, said: "I can't understand what the photographers were hoping to get. A picture of two people in a dark car can't be worth all this misery."

Rose Palmer, 57, a London housewife, said: "The photographers are certainly to blame. They followed her everywhere, every day. What makes me angry is that they didn't seem to care what Charles got up to."

By the afternoon, thousands of people stretched into Kensington High Street as the kneedep carpet of flowers stretched ever longer around Kensington Palace. Inscriptions read: "Born a lady, became a princess, died a saint", "Princess of hearts: you



The people's memorial: children laying flowers at the entrance to Buckingham Palace. Some of the crowd of mourners shouted at photographers

will live on in all of our hearts" and "The nation has thrown away a jewel more precious than its whole empire".

Kerry Taylor, 18, was given special permission to leave her eating disorders clinic in London this morning to join the groups of other mourners outside the Palace.

She said: "Diana was my heroine. I hadn't told anyone about my eating disorders until she confessed to hers. She was an inspiration. After that I was able to tell my family and friends. It made it all much easier to bear. I never met her but I will miss her terribly."

Mike Sorokoput, 35, an air steward from Sydney, said: "As soon as I heard the news on the radio I came down here. Diana was in everybody's life. Britain has lost the jewel in the crown of its Royal Family. It is as though the fairytale has finally come to an end."

Ian Leckie, 25, from Glasgow, placed a solitary bunch of lilies at the gateway of Kensington Palace. He said: "I am shocked, it is not the way anyone should die. I've never done anything like this before but I'm very

upset by this news. It's a tragedy."

Lesley Bruce-Hay, 39, a landscape gardener, had driven from Surrey with her nine-year-old daughter Bianca. Openly crying, she said:

"Bianca always liked Diana, so I thought it was important to bring her here this morning."

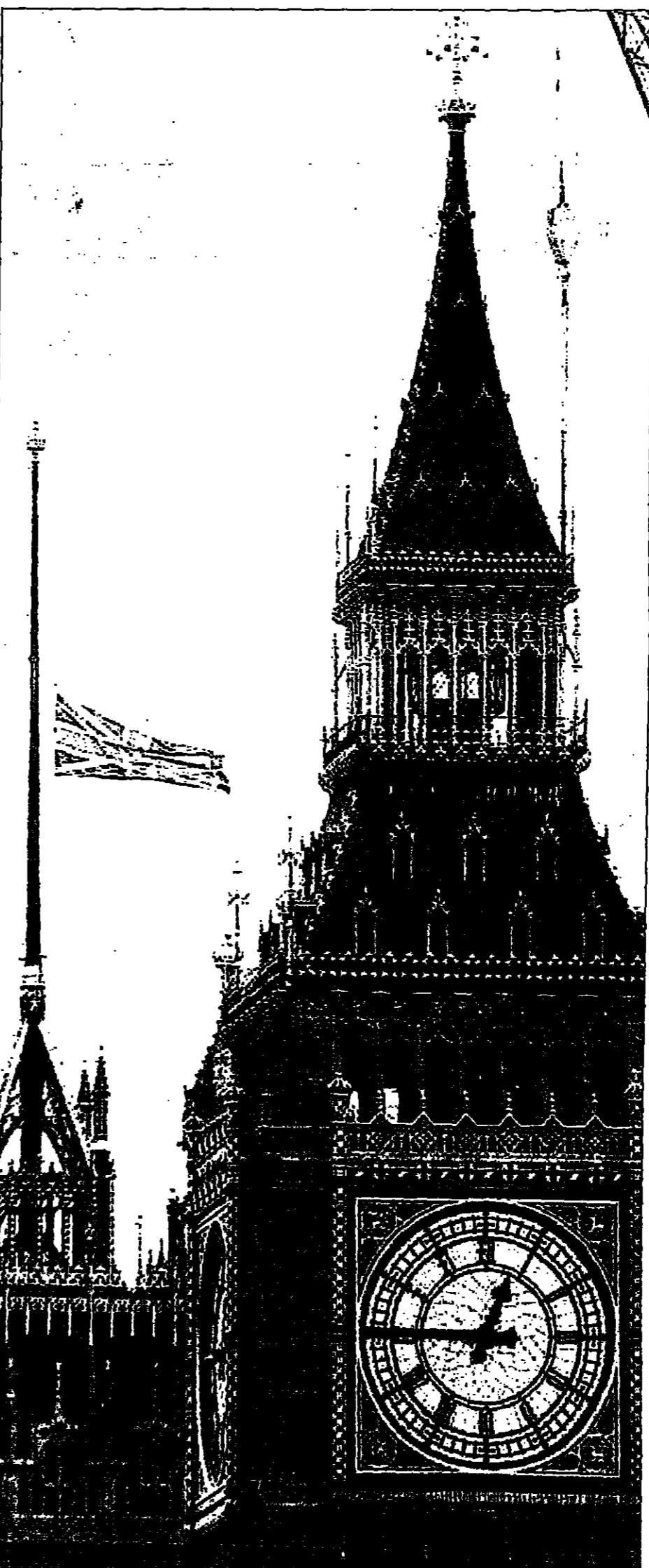
"A lot of people were critical of Diana, but I always admired her. She had a lot to cope with and she coped with it with strength. It's such a cruel waste."

Tourists who had come for the changing of the guard quickly flushed their boisterous children, leaving only a low murmur.

John Goode, 55, a warehouse assistant from Peckham, said: "I was a little kid when King George VI died. I was down here with my mum. It was a freezing cold day and I remember the same crowds, except most people were in black."

Joy Bone, a retired City worker from Romford, had been looking forward to yesterday for several weeks. "My son was born 36 years ago today. He is now the same age as Diana."

"God, it's so young. I was going to be so happy today."



The official tribute: a Union Jack flies at half mast over the Houses of Parliament

FA puts stop to matches for first time in 45 years

By JOHN GOODBOY
SPORTS NEWS
CORRESPONDENT

PROFESSIONAL football reacted quickly to the death of the Princess of Wales by postponing all matches scheduled to be played yesterday.

It was the first time since King George VI died in 1952 that the authorities had called off fixtures because of the death of anyone outside the national game.

England's World Cup qualifier with Moldova at Wembley on Wednesday week could also be in doubt if the match clashes with the funeral or any official day of mourning.

In rugby union, the two Premiership games were postponed but almost all the rugby league and Sum-

SPORT

day League cricket fixtures went ahead, with the teams observing a minute's or two minutes' silence before the start.

The exception was the Northamptonshire game against Durham, which was put off for a week out of respect to the 9th Earl Spencer, brother of the Princess, who is a patron of Northamptonshire County Cricket Club.

Among the postponements in football was Liverpool's Premiership game against Newcastle, which had attracted a sellout crowd of 35,000 to Anfield and was to have been shown live on BSkyB.

The decision was made at 11am after discussions between the Football Association and the Premier League with the Prime Minister's office. Peter Leaver, the league's chief executive, said: "The world of football joins with the nation in expressing our deepest sympathy to all those who knew and loved her."

Liverpool, one of teams involved in the Hillsborough disaster in 1989, added: "The club shares entirely the nation's grief following the death earlier today of the Princess".

The Football League



George VI

postponed the game between Crewe and Port Vale, while the Scottish League called off both Kilmarnock against Motherwell yesterday and Celtic versus Rangers, which had been scheduled to be played today.

The last time that football put off matches after a death outside the game was when King George VI died on Wednesday, February 6, 1952. Although Saturday's fixtures took place as usual, the FA postponed all the matches in the greater London area the following week, when the monarch's funeral took place.

The British Horse Racing Board has yet to decide what action to take on the day of the Princess's funeral but meetings at Hamilton and Hexham will go ahead today, preceded by a minute's silence.

Michael Jackson cancelled a pop concert before 60,000 people in Ostend, Belgium, yesterday because he did not want to perform after hearing of the Princess's sudden death. (Reuters)

Statesmen who shared the limelight face hard decisions

By PETER RIDDLE

TONY BLAIR and other party leaders yesterday expressed with dignity and emotion the national sense of shock and grief. But, as they would be the first to acknowledge, they were, for once, on the sidelines.

The Princess died, as she lived, a unique global figure. For all the attempts to draw a wider symbolic significance from the appalling tragedy of



Tony Blair paying tribute after attending church with his family yesterday in his Sedgefield constituency

her death, there are few such implications — with one big exception.

However much she had recently become involved in political controversy, the Princess was above conventional politics.

She was a star, as the stunned reaction throughout the world yesterday showed. Her death was more like that of other global stars such as Marilyn Monroe or Princess Grace of Monaco, than, say, the assassination of President Kennedy.

The drama will continue to fascinate and engross, but is likely to change little. The Princess had a big impact on public life, as well as on the popular imagination.

Unlike most other members of the Royal Family, she was able to highlight the plight of outsiders. She changed the public view

politicians also enjoyed sharing.

But they were also wary of her involvement in issues of controversy and these fears increased after her divorce and the easing of some of the constraints of court life although still a member of the Royal Family. The fuss this summer over her landmines campaign showed the limits on what she could do.

Apart from the sense of personal loss and grief — and of her personal style and contribution to various charities — the main impact of the way she died will be on the debate over press intrusion. Successive governments have been reluctant to legislate, but the matter may be taken out of legislators' hands.

Senior judges have already said that rights of privacy might develop case by case under the common law if Parliament fails to act. The scope for such rulings will increase following the proposed incorporation of the European Convention on Human Rights into British law.

Politicians know there is little they can say, or do, over the next few days. On such occasions of national grief, they can echo but not create the public mood. But after the mourning is over, they will face tricky decisions on privacy.

Privacy options, page 15



Prince William and Prince Harry sitting on either side of the Prince of Wales as they leave Crathie parish church after Sunday morning service. They had been accompanied to church by the Queen and the Duke of Edinburgh

IAN STEWART

No mention of accident as Princes join church service

By NICHOLAS WATT

THE FAMILY

LOOKING sombre but remarkably composed, Prince William and his younger brother, Prince Harry, left Balmoral Castle yesterday to attend church with other members of the Royal Family.

Hours after being awoken by the Prince of Wales to be told of the death of their mother, the young Princes were driven slowly to the small parish church in Crathie where the Royal Family worship during their summer break.

Dressed in suits and wearing black ties, the Princes sat on either side of their father in the back of a black limousine as they swept up a narrow tree-lined avenue to the simple church across the River Dee.

The Prince of Wales, who wore a Highland kilt and a black tie, stared straight ahead, looking red-faced with bloodshot eyes.

The Princes were accompanied to the 11.30am service by the Queen, the Duke of Edinburgh, Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, the Duke of York, and their cousin, Peter Phillips. The Queen wore a simple black dress with a black hat, while the Duke of Edinburgh wore a kilt and black tie.

As she was driven to the church, the Queen smiled and waved to a crowd of local well-wishers, and scores of

The Queen Mother is driven away from church

tourists who stood in silence.

The Rev Robert Sloan, the Church of Scotland minister at Crathie, greeted the Royal Family outside the church where well-wishers had earlier left two simple bouquets of flowers.

During the hour-long service, which was attended by about 100 local parishioners, no mention was made of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. Mr Sloan said: "Everybody in the world knew what

had happened. Our business was to conduct a normal service of worship."

However, parishioners wept as they sang the hymn *God Is Love His Mercy Brightens*, and prayers were said for the Royal Family. Mr Sloan said in prayer: "We remember all those who at this time of need to know Your presence. All those whose lives are darkened by tragedy and grief who need to know more than human comfort and friend-

"We pray for our Queen and her family, the Prince of Wales, Prince William and Prince Harry. May they be assured of Your love, may they be assured of our love."

The service was conducted by the Rev Adrian Varwell, a visiting Church of Scotland minister from Benbecula, the Outer Hebrides, who continued with his prepared sermon.

The two young Princes, who sat in a section of the church reserved for the Royal Family under a bust of Queen Victoria, listened as Mr Varwell illustrated his thoughts with Billy Connolly jokes and told of the unsettling experience of moving house. At one point the minister held up a plastic bucket with a hole which he uses to feed his goats and sheep. Mr Varwell said that the water which flows out of the hole is akin to people who waste God's love.

At the end of the service Mr

Sloan, who was dressed in the red robes of the Queen's domestic chaplain, was overcome with emotion as the congregation stood for the national anthem. Standing in front of the congregation he held his head in his hands for a few brief moments.

After the service the minister paid tribute to the courage of the young Princes for attending the service. Mr Sloan said: "They were remarkable. They were very good indeed, despite what must have been going through their minds and their hearts. They were very upset."

The minister said he found the singing of the national anthem a particularly poignant moment. "When you sing the national anthem in

the presence of the Queen it does move you. The words mean a lot to the folk in the kirk. On an occasion like this it is much more personal than an ordinary Sunday."

Mr Sloan described the Princess of Wales as a member of "our family" and said he hoped that the service would help the Royal Family to cope with their grief. He said: "Whatever happens in the world there is still a tomorrow. The past can be put past and can be forgotten. There is a new life. From a Christian point of view we believe that life is in Christ and in the Christian faith. We hope they

will be to introduce an immediate worldwide ban on the sale of landmines. He said: "It would leave a real mark if the world banned landmines."

Crowds at Balmoral noticed that the Royal Standard on the

estate was not being flown at half-mast. A Buckingham Palace spokesman explained: "The Royal Standard is never flown at half-mast, even when the monarch dies. As the heir to the throne immediately takes over in the event of a sovereign's dying, the flag is never flown at half-mast."

Well-wishers last night left floral tributes at the entrance to Balmoral Castle. One card said: "To our Queen of hearts. May you finally have found peace and happiness. You will never be replaced."

Another alluded to the Princess's reported dislike of Balmoral. The card read: "You may never have loved Scotland, Diana. But Scotland loved you."

Crowds at Balmoral noticed that the Royal Standard on the

Masses after mother talks to priests

By SHIRLEY ENGLISH

THE Princess's mother, Frances Shand Kydd, was being comforted by friends at her home on the Isle of Seil, near Oban, yesterday.

Mrs Shand Kydd, 61, a devout Catholic, was informed of her daughter's death in the early hours. A police guard was placed outside her home. Candles were lit at her parish church, St Columba's Cathedral, Oban, and at Mrs Shand Kydd's request two special Masses were offered.

Father Sean MacAulay, the parish priest, said: "I put the television on and heard that Diana was injured. I phoned Frances at 4am, and Frances told me that Diana had been killed."

She had her friends with her who had driven down during the night. A mother losing her child is a terrible thing. The death of a child knows no words we can say that will ever comfort a parent. It can only be compared to Our Lady losing her child Jesus."

Father MacAulay added: "Frances is a very resilient woman with a strong faith and she'll need those qualities."

Mrs Shand Kydd, who left the Princess's father the late Earl Spencer in 1969, was not at Mass yesterday, but Father Paul McAlinden told worshippers: "Today we gather as a community in mourning for Diana, Princess of Wales. We pray particularly for her two young sons and of course for her mother, Frances, a parishioner in our community. It was her mother's wish that this Mass be offered for the repose of the soul of Diana."



Mrs Shand Kydd: not at Mass yesterday

Children may need warning about effects of grief

Teenagers suffer badly and 'stiff upper lip' delays recovery, says Dr Thomas Stuttaford

HOWEVER the Prince of Wales broke the news to his sons, his words will inevitably have started the grief response. Grief is not haphazard; it follows a well-recognised pattern although its extent and length is influenced by the way in which it can be expressed and by the temperament of the bereaved.

The Prince of Wales would have been conscious that, following the divorce a year ago, this is the second time recently that he has had to talk to his children about an upheaval in their domestic life. Recurrent disasters are potentially more damaging than a single incident, however serious.

The Prince of Wales will almost certainly be aware that grief is likely to be much more intense when death is sudden and unexpected, and that it possibly affects adolescent children — who are inevitably insecure — more intensely

than other age groups.

The Prince may not know that there is evidence that the way he explains the normal grief response to his children is all-important, as it is essential that they are not taken by surprise by the emotion that it evokes.

A full explanation of grief in all its forms, and the chance to discuss its manifestations, may affect the future equilibrium of children. There is evidence that the "stiff upper lip" which the Prince of Wales will have to show in public, and that his sons will be expected to display at school, can delay a return to normal life.

Standard grief goes through three stages.

Initially the bereaved feel numb. They find it impossible to com-

prehend the full consequences of what has happened, and thus may appear so emotionally unaffected by the death as to seem callous. Psychiatrists call this period the stage of denial, and it can quite normally last for a week or two.

The second stage includes all the signs and symptoms traditionally associated with depression. During this period, the bereaved person is preoccupied by memories of the person who has died, talks incessantly about them, and may even have auditory hallucinations, feeling certain of hearing the voice of the dead person.

The bereaved sufferer has a poor appetite, weight loss, waves of sadness and insomnia accompanied by night-time tears. They withdraw from their social life.

losing interest in many of the activities they previously enjoyed.

Children may have less well-defined depressive symptoms, but may be generally difficult, rebellious and apparently idle. For an adult to be depressed for six months is difficult, but in the case of someone still at school, this can represent two lost terms, and can lead to problems for the rest of the schooldays.

During the second stage, the bereaved can frequently feel a sense of guilt. Usually, this is expressed by a statement which starts: "If only I..." The reason for the guilt may be totally unreasonable and may seem absurd to someone else.

Although many feel guilt in the second stage of grief, others may feel anger. This may be directed at

the person who has died: "How could she leave me with all these problems?"

Other people attribute blame for the death to a third party's incompetence or foolishness, and become set on some form of retribution.

Within four or five months, in the normal grief response, the depressed mood lightens and the bereaved patients begin to resume their normal lives. They should be back on a normal mental plane within six months, able to cope with the office, factory or school.

The grief response is considered abnormal if it lasts for more than six to eight months, or if the symptoms are abnormally severe. Even after this time, however, it is not unusual for it to return on the occasion of an anniversary. And it

can sometimes happen that the grieving process becomes stuck in one of the stages.

The feeling of numbness and unreality may last for many weeks or, for instance, anger induced by the second stage may remain for many years, so that the misery engendered by the death is never overcome.

Provided that the grief remains within the normal limits, the treatment is to allow the person to talk, express their feelings and discuss their doubts. Some psychiatrists have found that the advice of professional counsellors is not always as helpful as supposed.

The way in which bereavement is dealt with inevitably determines the long-term happiness and future stability of those who suffer from it. In the case of Prince William, it may even decide the future of the monarchy.

Mother Teresa tells of her grief

FROM CHRISTOPHER THOMAS
IN DELHI

MOTHER TERESA said the Princess was "like an ordinary housewife", conveying her belief that she was a simple person, and a good wife and mother.

"She helped me to help the poor and that's the most beautiful thing," she said, revealing that the Princess had given money to her Missionaries of Charity order.

The order emphasises simplicity and poverty for its members, and the Princess, who knew the Albanian-born nun for five years, seemed to empathise with its work. She embraced Aids babies and stroked the stumps of lepers, gestures that warmed Mother Teresa to her and made her a sensation on the Indian sub-continent. They never, however, delved into personal issues or the Princess's private life.

"I am very sorry to hear about the sudden death of Princess Diana," Mother Teresa said, seated in a wheelchair. "All the sisters and I are praying for her and all the members of her family to know God's speed and peace and comfort in this moment."

A sign in chalk has been erected at the order's headquarters in Calcutta, declaring: "Please pray for the repose of the soul of Princess Diana."

The two last met in June in New York. "She was very much concerned about the poor and her attitude towards the poor was good," Mother Teresa said. "That is why she came close to me. She came to Calcutta. She was taken to Sishu Bhavan [an orphanage] where we have children for adoption. We are fighting abortion with adoption. She was anxious to do something for the poor."

She said that in conversation they never dwelt on the subject of the Princess's personal life. "We never talked about her divorce. Most of the time we talked about how to love God and ask God to help us to love the poor. She was a very good wife and good mother of beautiful children."

The Princess visited the sub-continent several times, meeting Pathan tribal chiefs on the Afghan border in Pakistan,

Prayers said in sub-continent for 'good wife' who had turned her attention to concern for aiding the poor

Kumar Gujral, the Indian Prime Minister, said he was shocked. In a message to the Prince of Wales, Mr Gujral declared: "We pray for the peace of the departed soul. We in India knew her as a warm and compassionate person and recall her visit to India with Your Royal Highness. Her humanitarian concern and activities won her worldwide admiration. I pray to God to give strength to Your Royal Highness and to Prince William and Prince Harry to bear up to this trial."

Inram Khan, the former Pakistan cricket captain, said the Princess had "achieved unprecedented heights in the service of mankind". His wife Jemima, daughter of the late financier, Sir James Goldsmith, spoke of her horror at the Princess's death. She was a friend of the Princess and played host to her on her last visit to Pakistan, when she toured a charity cancer hospital opened by Ms Khan in honour of his late mother.

"I'm horrified and lost for words," Mrs Khan said. "She was an amazing and remarkable woman, a loyal friend and genuine crusader who did a great deal for others."

Mine-clearing officials in Afghanistan were dismayed. "It is very sad for demining programmes, not only in Afghanistan but for the whole world," Tahsin Disbudak, regional manager of United Nations mine-clearing operations, said in Kabul. Mine-clearers would "remember her for ever".

Afghanistan has ten million landmines; Cambodia even more. The Princess was instrumental in raising world awareness of the mine crisis. She could not visit Afghanistan because it was never safe enough, but she drew attention to the fact that 400,000 Afghans have been maimed by mines.

Halo Trust, the British mine-clearing charity, whose work in Afghanistan is internationally respected, said it had lost its greatest supporter for a worldwide ban on landmines. It is a measure of the Princess's impact on the mines issue that tens of thousands of illiterate Afghans, hobbling on crutches, know her name.

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Mother Teresa, in her wheelchair at her order in Calcutta yesterday, expresses her sorrow at the Princess's death. She commended the Princess for showing concern about giving help to the poor

American newspapers express their sorrow and anger

FROM TUNKU VARADARAJAN
IN NEW YORK AND
BROWEN MADDOX
IN WASHINGTON

FROM The New York Times and The Washington Post to the Fort Worth Star-Telegram and The Billings Gazette, America's newspapers gave their front pages over to Diana, Princess of Wales.

The time her death was announced, shortly after 4am in France, or 10pm US Eastern Standard Time, meant that all but the most laggardly of American newspapers could be remade completely for their later editions.

The coverage in the New York Post was, perhaps, the most extensive. The tabloid, which ran a black-bordered front page that declared "World in shock: Diana is dead", devoted its first nine pages to the death of the



The front-page news across America yesterday

"I will always be glad that I knew the Princess"

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

MESSAGES of condolence poured in yesterday as the world reacted with shock and dismay to news of the Princess's death:

□ President Clinton, speaking on the island of Martha's Vineyard where he is on holiday, said: "We liked her very much. We admired her work for children, for people with Aids, for the cause of ending the scourge of landmines in the world and for her love for her children, William and Harry. For myself, I will always be glad that I knew the Princess."

□ Helmut Kohl, the German Chancellor, did not hesitate to condemn the media for its role in her death. "The Princess is also the victim of an increasingly brutal and unscrupulous competition between sections of the media," he said. "The terrible accident and her death should at last give those in positions of responsibility in the media to think about what they have been doing." The Chancellor praised the Princess for her "open nature and her engagement in humanitarian causes".

□ President Chirac of France described her as "a young woman of our times, warm, full of life and generosity". Lionel Jospin, the Prime Minister, said the Princess was a woman loved by the people.

WORLD REACTION

□ Luciano Pavarotti, the Italian tenor, saluted the Princess as "a beautiful symbol of harmony and love for all the world".

□ President Yeltsin's office in Moscow put out a statement saying he was profoundly shocked. "Her huge contribution to charity both in Britain and abroad is universal knowledge," it said. "Many exceptional projects that touched the lives of ordinary people have been put into practice in Russia with her direct participation."

□ Jim Bolger, the New Zealand Prime Minister, extended condolences on behalf of all

New Zealanders to the Royal Family, with "a great sense of sadness".

□ John Howard, Australian Prime Minister, said: "It is a very tragic and untimely accident and our thoughts are particularly with her two sons."

□ President Mandela of South Africa said the Princess had been an ambassador for victims of landmines, war orphans, the sick and needy throughout the world. "I met her when she visited our country earlier this year and was tremendously impressed. "We are all devastated by the news of the death of Princess Diana . . . who was the best ambassador for Great Britain. She will be sadly missed as a warm, compassionate and caring person."

□ Tung Chee-hwa, Hong Kong's Chief Executive, expressed his "deep shock and sadness" while King Norodom Sihanouk of Cambodia said: "I am very sad. She was a good friend and I send my deepest condolences."

□ Binyamin Netanyahu, the Israeli Prime Minister, sent a letter of condolence to Tony Blair in which he said: "The Princess was a woman of grace, beauty and charm. She represented Britain with nobility and warmth, and she captured the imagination of millions throughout the world with her dedication to her children and to innumerable worthy causes."

□ President Ramos of the Philippines extended his sympathy for the deaths of the Princess and Dodi Fayed. "We offer sympathy and condolences of our country and people to the families of both for this very sad incident."

□ In Cairo, Union flags flew at half mast as Egyptians expressed shock at the death of the Princess and their countryman, Dodi Fayed. The official al-Ahram newspaper carried a photograph of the couple laughing and swimming recently in the Mediterranean Sea.



Suppressing emotion, President Clinton expresses his sorrow over the death of the Princess



Kohl: praise for humanitarian work



Pavarotti: a "beautiful symbol of harmony"



Acclaiming the Princess of Wales's work for the sick. President Mandela recalls her visit to South Africa

UN chief praises battle for ban on mines

BY OUR FOREIGN STAFF

KOFI ANNAN, the United Nations Secretary-General, led the tributes from humanitarian and charitable organisations yesterday, singling out for praise the Princess's "unflinching commitment to the cause of banning anti-personnel landmines".

He said: "The Princess made a major contribution to alleviating suffering, especially among the poor, the weak and the sick throughout the world. The tragedy has robbed the world of a consistent and committed voice for the improvement of the lives of suffering children."

Bosnian landmine victims whom the Princess visited last month were dismayed at her death. "My whole family is crying," said Plamenko Priganić, a former soldier who lost his leg from a mine blast. "She came here to help us. She was a beautiful woman who did great work for mine victims."

Johan van der Merwe, manager of the UN landmine action centre project in Bosnia, said: "I don't know what the organisation she was involved in, the Landmine Survivors' Network, will continue to work without her."

In Geneva, Kim Gordon-Bates, the head of the International Committee of the Red Cross, said she had done a great deal "to popularise the campaign, to bring it . . . into the homes of ordinary people around the world".

Last year the Princess resigned as head of almost 100 charities. It was a harsh blow for organisations that had relied on her as a magnet for donations. She maintained links with just six charities — the National Aids Trust, the Leprosy Mission, the English National Ballet, Centrepoint, the charity for the homeless, the Royal Marsden Hospital in London, a leading cancer research centre, and the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children.



Annan: tribute to her commitment

DIANA

Princess of Wales

1961 - 1997



The Princess selected this photograph as being her favourite image of herself. She is cuddling a dying child in Pakistan. She said: "It is in these kind of surroundings that I would prefer to be photographed" John Pryke/Reuter



Growing up in the face of misery: Lady Diana Spencer in London in 1968, dressed for the country in the Isle of Uist and at home at Althorp as a teenager. As a child, she came to resent deeply, but silently, her stepmother Raine

The fates conspired to ensure the daughter of a doomed marriage with an unhappy childhood should never find fulfilment in a fairytale, writes Alan Hamilton

From the moment of her birth on July 1, 1961, the omens for the life of Lady Diana Spencer were inauspicious. The stars were ill-conjoined for a bounty of contentment, fulfilment or even of luck.

A memory that stuck with her throughout her life was the sound of crunching gravel: it was the sound of her mother's footsteps on the drive of Park House, the Spencer family home in Norfolk, as she packed her belongings in a car and drove out of her family's life. Diana, sitting bewildered and frightened at the foot of the stairs, was six years old.

It was intended as a trial separation, but it was, in fact, the end of Lord and Lady Althorp's marriage which had been sacrificed in Westminster Abbey 14 years before. Diana's overwhelming sense of isolation and betrayal was compounded by her mother's departure coinciding with the sudden loss of her two elder sisters to boarding school. The sense of deprivation she carried for the rest of her life explains much of her facility for physical contact with the sick and the dying.

But even before her family life was shattered, the fates were looking unkindly on Diana. Although by no means an unwanted child, her arrival in the world provoked a sense of anticlimax rather than rejoicing.

Viscount Althorp was the heir to a family that had grown immensely rich on the back of the medieval wool trade. Although no longer in the first rank of wealth, they were still a family of substance. Diana was born with the silver spoon in her mouth, but the spoon held a drop of gall.

As with all men of his rank and position, Viscount Althorp greatly desired a male heir. But his wife, the former Frances Roche, had produced two girls. Then, at last, in 1960, she gave birth to a boy, John. But the child lived only ten hours. Lady Althorp was quickly pregnant again, but the result was another girl. So convinced were the parents that it would be a boy they had not even considered any girl's names, and it took them a week to settle on Diana Frances.

As a young girl, Diana frequently visited the grave of her short-lived brother in Sandringham churchyard and wondered if, had he lived, she would have been born at all. "I was the girl who was supposed to be a boy," she would



With her brother, Charles, in Berkshire in 1968, aged seven

remark in later years. A male heir, Charles, was eventually born three years after Diana, but the Althorp marriage was none the less doomed.

The divorce was acrimonious to the extreme, with Diana and her siblings pawns in an unseemly battle for custody. The atmosphere was further poisoned by her mother being named as the other woman in the divorce of Peter Shand-Kydd, a wallpaper manufacturer. Unusually, Viscount Althorp won custody.

Johnnie Spencer, who succeeded to the earldom on the death of his father in 1975 and moved his family into the ancestral Northamptonshire seat at Althorp, seemed to date on his children, with Diana his favourite. But in the long run, his success in the custody battle directed little happiness in the way of his youngest daughter. In the absence of a mother Diana was looked after by a succession of nannies, few of whom stayed in the job for long.

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A chubby two-year-old at the family home in Park House, Norfolk. Her parents expected a son and took a week to decide a name

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES



The Earl of Snowdon's official engagement photograph. At their press conference the couple appeared rather solemn, but the world put it down to the Prince's ponderous nature and Diana's fright at such instant stardom



First steps in the public eye: as a nursery assistant in 1980 at the start of her romance with the Prince



At Balmoral before the wedding. She hated visits and, by the late Eighties, no longer went

Tony Drabblie

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES



The "fairy-tale" marriage: the Prince and Princess's wedding on July 29, 1981, and their kiss on the balcony of Buckingham Palace, were watched by the biggest television audience in British history Massimo Sambucetti/EPA

Continued from page 8

definition, a difficulty for children, but Raine Spencer was in a class of her own. The daughter of the romantic novelist Barbara Cartland, Raine maintained the family tradition of larger-than-life personality.

Her achievements at Althorp were many, including putting the estate on a sounder financial footing and nursing Earl Spencer through a near-fatal cerebral hemorrhage. But the children, particularly Diana and her younger brother Charles, came deeply to resent her bossiness; the hold she appeared to have over their father, and the insensitive way in which she "restored" their family home, selling off treasured heirlooms and paintings, often at giveaway prices.

Diana's sweet nature held her true feelings in check, but only for so long. At a rehearsal for her brother's wedding in 1989, Raine refused to speak in Diana's mother Frances despite being seated next to her. Diana finally let loose her pent-up indignation and gave her stepmother a very public dressing-down for her total lack of feeling.

Relations between Diana and her overpowering stepmother reached their nadir during Earl Spencer's illness. As he lay in a coma, Raine did her best to prevent his children visiting him, and they had to sneak in while her back was turned. Earl Spencer survived, but in the view of his children it was small thanks to his wife.

It was shortly before the earl's illness, and not long after he had married Raine at a quiet register office ceremony, that a chance meeting took place which had the potential to transform Diana's childhood of unhappiness into an adulthood of fame, fortune and — most important of all — fulfillment. How bright the omens appeared to be. But it was to bring bitter disillusionment and, in the end, terrible tragedy.

Diana first met the world's most eligible bachelor in the middle of a ploughed field on the Althorp estate, where a shoot was in progress. The Prince of Wales was at the time taking something of an interest in Diana's elder sister Sarah, and the 16-year-old Diana, unprepossessing in anorak and wellingtons, had been brought along simply to make up the numbers. She was not impressed, and many years later recalled thinking what a sad man he was. At that first meeting, there was no hint of the romance to come. But events began to move inexorably, although imperceptibly, towards a match. Diana's sister Jane married Robert (now Sir Robert) Fellowes, then an assistant private secretary to the Queen, thus bringing the

Spencers into much closer contact with the Royal Family. And two elderly ladies began to plot.

Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother was well aware that her grandson was a ditherer about women, and at the age of 30 still showed no sign of picking a bride and siring an heir. One of her closest and longest-standing friends was Ruth, Lady Fermoy, who lived near Sandringham and who happened to have a granddaughter named Lady Diana Spencer.

What part, if any, those two grandmothers played in bringing the couple together has never been fully explained, but it is inconceivable they did not discuss the matter. They undoubtedly encouraged it, and may even have dropped hints in the right ears.

That a romance was in progress was confirmed by an alert tabloid reporter scanning the banks of the River Dee at Balmoral during the Royal Family's summer holiday there in 1980. Through his binoculars he spotted Charles in the company of a girl he identified as Diana Spencer.

What part, if any, those two grandmothers played in bringing the couple together has never been fully explained, but it is inconceivable they did not discuss the matter. They undoubtedly encouraged it, and may even have dropped hints in the right ears.

The dream was not long in turning sour, even in public. From the beginning Diana had been deeply distressed by the constant attention of photographers, and she reached the end of her tether when she was pictured in a bikini five months pregnant on a beach in the Bahamas. But the stresses in private were infinitely greater.

She knew from the beginning of Camilla Parker Bowles, but tried to convince herself, without much success, that the relationship with Charles was ancient history. Her husband appears to have done little to hide his continuing affair, even appearing at dinner during their honeymoon cruise on Britannia wearing a new pair of cufflinks engraved with two letters C.

The engagement sent the media into paroxysms of sentimentality. Diana was loved for being so ordinary, for living in a flat and shopping at Marks & Spencer. She seemed beguilingly shy, completely devoid of the braying characteristics of the average Sloane Ranger. People found they could relate to her, whereas her husband-to-be as heir to the throne came from a different planet, one with extremely rarefied air.

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People found they could relate to her, whereas her husband-to-be as heir to the throne came from a different planet, one with extremely rarefied air.



Mother of a future king: leaving hospital in London after the birth of her son Prince William on June 21, 1982

EPI

She was acclaimed on all sides as the "human" Princess, but down-to-earth human contact was precisely what she was lacking. The formality of royal family life was something she found herself unable to cope with.

Dutifully, she quickly gave birth to an heir, one of the few events in their married life that appeared to bring deep and genuine pleasure to both. Another son soon followed, and to the end of her life her children remained the only constant stars in Diana's firmament.

She, on the other hand, was a fun-loving, kind-hearted girl with five O level failures, a pretty smile, good pedigree and virtually no experience of men. At their engagement press conference and photocall, the couple appeared rather solemn for a pair supposedly in love, but the world merely put it down to Charles's ponderous nature and Diana's fright at such instant stardom. We now know

wife was catching all the attention, while he was forced to play second fiddle. Public and press were far more interested in her freaks than his worthy words. She dressed to kill, but in the early years at least she did not otherwise go out of her way to upset her husband.

There were other telltale signs that all was not well. She became painfully thin and on at least two occasions on overseas visits she fainted — plain evidence in hindsight that bulimia was exercising its hold on her.

But, for the time being, the couple kept the royal show on the road, travelling the world and receiving unbounded adulation wherever they went. The Princess won widespread praise for mixing easily

with the poor and the sick; she achieved more than any amount of propaganda and medical education could do when she visited a leprosy hospital in Indonesia and touched the patients' withered limbs, proving that the disease is not contagious and there is no need for its sufferers to be isolated from society.

That all was not well behind the facade was shown in the late summer of 1987, when Charles flew alone to Balmoral and stayed there for a month, leaving his wife and children behind in Kensington Palace. Official spokesmen were forced into making feeble excuses about him being extremely busy managing the estate.

The couple were reunited when

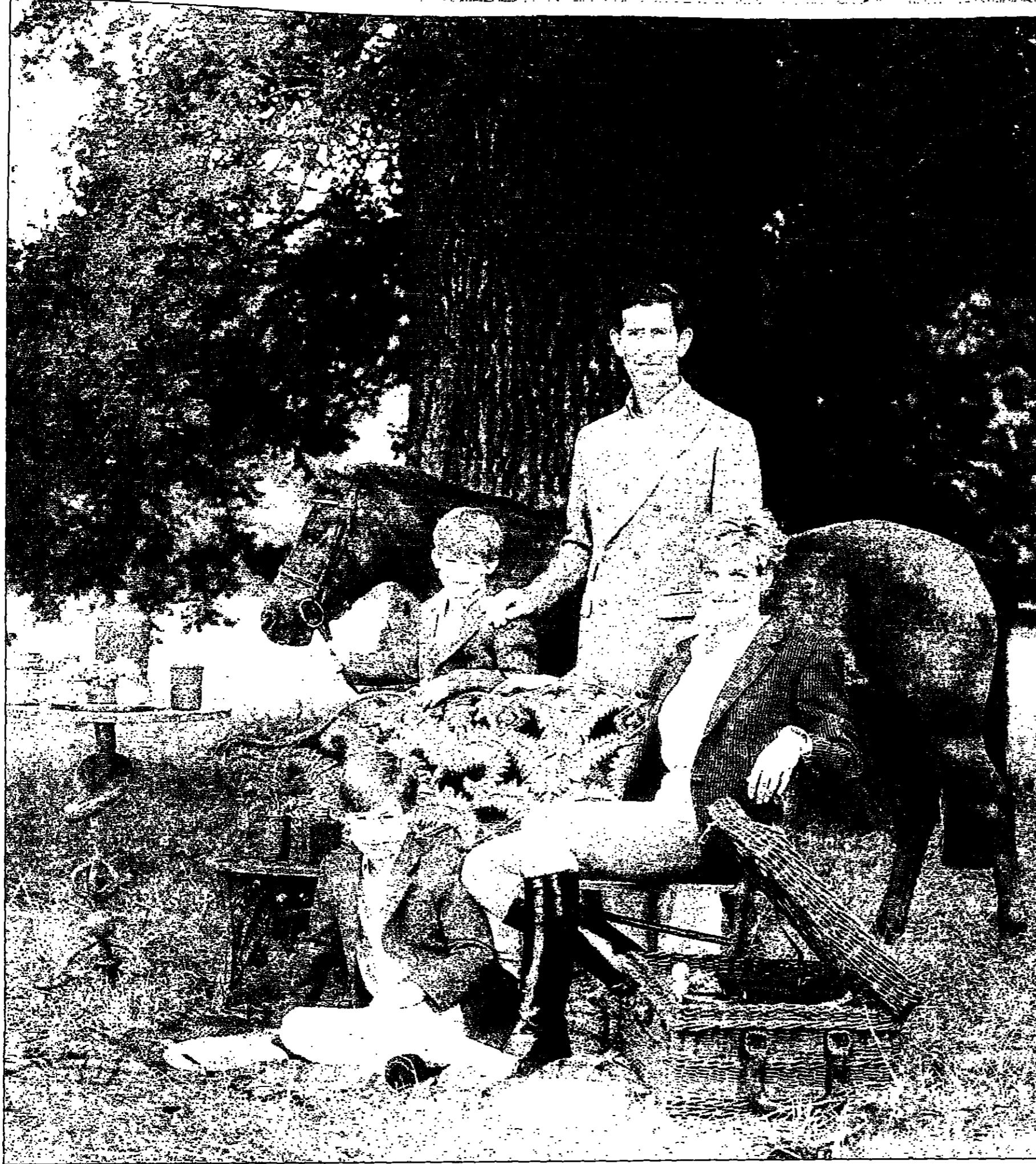
they were persuaded to visit homes in West Wales that had been damaged by flooding. They arrived separately, left separately for different destinations and, during the few hours they spent together, they appeared not to exchange a single word.

The marriage never recovered, and the couple spent more and more time apart. Charles burying himself at Highgrove and associating with a set of local friends who included, inevitably, Camilla Parker Bowles.

By 1993, Diana appeared at last to have come to terms with her situation, helped by two events. She surprised herself by how well she

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THE LIFE AND DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES



The family's last Christmas card together in 1991, the year before the separation was announced. The Princess was known to dislike riding

Snowdon

THE PRICE OF FAME

Legends forged by an untimely death

By DANIEL McGROarty

EVERYONE will for ever remember where they were when they first heard of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales. The sense of shock and loss will be compared to that November day in Dallas in 1963 when President Kennedy was assassinated. In untimely death legends are born.

There will be many comparisons made in the coming days, not least with the public adulation enjoyed by Eva Perón, who died of cancer aged 33 and who was more popular than her husband, Juan Perón, the Argentine President.

Most tragic of all will be the comparison with Princess Grace of Monaco, a beauty who transformed a monarchy and who was feted for the way that she touched the lives of all the people.

Like Diana, Princess Grace married into a royal establishment.

married into a royal establishment that doubted her suitability. But Monaco recognised that Princess Grace brought glamour and popularity to the miniature Mediterranean principality.

Princess Grace was 52 when she was killed in a car crash in France on September 15, 1982. Both Princesses had held the media in thrall, often disguising the private despair at their unhappy marriages.

As an actress Grace Kelly had entranced Hollywood and had

entranced Hollywood and had been romantically linked to many of her leading men, including Frank Sinatra. Her wedding on the French Riviera to Prince Rainier on April 19, 1956 was attended by more than 1,200 guests. A measure of her popularity was that the ceremony was

ity was that the ceremony was one of the first events to be televised around the world.

becoming the most photographed woman in the world. The packs of photographers that the film-maker Federico Fellini had described as paparazzi in his film *La Dolce Vita*, would pursue Princess Grace, as in a different generation they did more aggressively with Diana. A new photograph of

Princess Grace was guaranteed to raise the circulation of any publication but, like Diana, she recognised her position made her in part "a public property".

in part a public property. Both women remained only too aware of the hostility of some in the establishment that they married into but their reaction was to win the public's affection and to work tirelessly for charities. Both confessed that at times they felt close to breaking point and were determined to shield their children from the intrusion that they had to suffer.

had to suffer. Jackie Kennedy chose to deal with increased media attention in the aftermath of her husband's assassination by becoming a near recluse. Pursued by the camera lens everywhere she went, the President's widow eventually sought the protection of Aristotle Onassis, a wealthy foreign businessman, just as most recently Diana had enjoyed the companionship of Dodi Fayed, who she felt could support her lifestyle but also offer sanctuary from those that were pursuing her.

Unlike Eva Perón, Diana insisted that she never sought to use her popularity for political ends. She was distressed that her most recent sub-

Grace: feted most recent support for a ban on landmines was interpreted by some MPs as interfering in government matters. Politicians though realised the advantage of appearing to have the Princess on their side, which is why Tony Blair invited her to Chequers, and several of his ministers were sent to brief her at Kensington Palace.

Diana was only too aware of the transience of fame. She was disturbed that in some circles there were deliberate efforts made to undermine her work and her popularity. She referred to what she called the "English disease" of wanting to pull her from the pedestal of popularity.

from the pedestal of popularity. She conceded that she had turned to a variety of figures who suffered a similar fate to see how they coped. Often there was surprise at her choice of confidantes, such as her recent invit-

uates, such as her recent invitation to the comedian Michael Barrymore to discuss how he had dealt with press hostility.



Princess Grace: feted



Separate ways: at a memorial service in Korea during a Far East tour in November 1992



United front: Prince William's first day at Eton in 1995, with his housemaster Andrew Gailey

ESS OF W



Left, the Princess in Panorama in November 1995, in which she started her "High Hopes" a queen of people's hearts. Right, with Mother Teresa in New York earlier this year.

BBC/Bebeto Matthews/AP



hearts. Right, with Mother Teresa in New York earlier this year.

new role, the Princess on Panorama Hill, in which she stars before the cameras.



er to concentrate on issues close to her heart



aged the dead, and of Hugo, and Prince, and himself, had a moment of quiet. Then he had it out with the Devil. He crossed himself, and went to the front of the altar. In a voice the only one

THE LIFE AND DEATH OF DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES

She was happiest when she was giving

Tom Walker in
Sarajevo recalls
an evening when
the Princess was
able to behave like
a normal person

At her final meal in Bosnia, Diana, Princess of Wales, free of the photographers who hounded her every move, joked about her family life and spoke with warmth and sympathy of the landmine victims she had come to visit. There were no direct mentions of Dodi Fayed, but just a few hints of the doomed happiness they shared. On their holiday this summer in St Tropez, the Princess said, the couple had had privacy, but "only when we sailed at night".

The deep love of her sons William and Harry was evident in every mention of them. St Tropez, she said, had provided a few surprises for Harry. Attracted by the stunning beauties of a waterfront bar, Harry called his mother over, only for her to point out that William had discovered St Tropez's most famous transvestite haunt.

"He was so fascinated we had to look in there every night of the week," she said. "He's 13 going on 20."

It was a small dinner arranged by the Landmine Survivors' Network at the Vezir's Elephant hotel in a quiet backstreet of Travnik, in central Bosnia. There were no more than a dozen people with the Princess, and the *Times* was lucky enough to scrape an invitation at the last minute. Lord Deedes of *The Daily Telegraph*, who had chaperoned the Princess through the media traps that awaited her in Bosnia as the Dodi affair came to light, said that questions were to be kept strictly off that subject. Sky Television, which was blaring out just that in the background, was switched off.

The Princess wore jeans and a white shirt. The rigours of long journeys on Bosnia's pitted roads and the ever-present threat of media intrusion had left her tired but cheerful, and as the evening wore on and course upon course of Bosnian fare arrived, she managed to shed the straitjacket of protocol that



The Princess with Chris Benet and his wife, Sandrine, and behind them Tom Walker of *The Times*, with, left, a Bosnian aid worker, after their dinner at an hotel in Travnik, central Bosnia

prevented her from becoming the normal person she often longed to be.

"I need those guys like a hole in the head," she remarked of the British tabloids out there somewhere in the Bosnian darkness. As more Bosnian food was put before her, she gamely tried every course, although she did become weary of the Kajmak, a Bosnian cream cheese, that accompanied everything: "Oh, not that again."

As Lord Deedes tried to keep the conversation focused on the clearing of

landmines, she spoke of her wish to return to the Serb territories of Bosnia. Originally scheduled to visit Bosnia with the Red Cross, the trip had been cancelled because the Princess would have had the embarrassment of meeting the president of the Bosnian Serb Red Cross, Liljana Karadzic, wife of the world's most wanted war crimes suspect.

The Princess said that she hoped to visit Afghanistan and Georgia and also to become involved in work for the mentally handicapped and depressed.

Several times she mentioned her parties with "the Establishment" and her loathing for some Conservative MPs opposed to banning landmines. "I always have those ghastly Conservatives at my throat," she said. She spoke with admiration of Martin Bell and his campaign to clean up politics, and of Martin Bell's daughter. "Isn't she drop dead gorgeous?" she said.

Chris Benet, a journalist now working for the International Crisis Group in Bosnia, told the Princess about the

enthusiasm of his parents for her marriage to the Prince of Wales: he described in detail how his family travelled around Europe that summer with Charles and Diana signs on their car. They were so happy at the time, he said. "Weren't we all?" the Princess remarked.

At the end of the evening she cheerfully gave autographs and posed for photographs for Bosnian newspapers. She took away to read Mr Benet's *Yugoslavia's Bloody Collapse*.

"I regretted she was a princess because you can't get to know a princess like a nice person, which is what she is," said Anna Husarska, a Polish colleague of Mr Benet and a staff member of *The New Yorker*.

Ms Husarska said that she saw the Princess again the next day at Sarajevo airport, where she dreaded having her photograph taken among 100 French soldiers. As she left she was carrying Mr Benet's book. "I've already read it," she said, with a wink.



In Angola in January, backing the Red Cross campaign for a landmines ban

Juda Ngwenya/Reuters

Continued from page 10

coped with the crisis surrounding the death in a skiing accident at Klosters of Hugh Lindsay, a close friend of the Prince, and the near-death of the Prince himself. And, in a particularly satisfying moment of catharsis, she confronted Mrs Parker Bowles at a birthday party and had it out with her.

As Diana herself said in her *Panorama* interview, the marriage had become crowded with three people in it. From that moment, it was dead. Her most public statement of her situation was to make sure she was photographed alone, in front of the Taj Mahal, a shrine raised to marital love.

In an attempt to recover her self-esteem, she consulted gurus, fortune-tellers and astrologers. She made a determined attempt to beat her bulimia. She threw

herself with renewed vigour into unpopular causes, from homelessness to Aids, that other public figures would have shied away from. Sometimes she invited publicity, sometimes she went incognito at dead of night to hold the hands of the dying.

Diana went in search of a new role, but never fully found it. She did, however, find a new man, James Hewitt, with whom she had an affair, but who in the end dumped her. The straits of her life, far from receding, merely increased with the rising speculation over her marriage and her future. She found the constant press vigilance over any sign of a new man in her life intolerable. Once again, she was deeply lonely.

Her feeling of isolation and vulnerability caused her to make a tearful public announcement that she was withdrawing from public life, blaming constant press intrusion. She did not retire from public



The Princess meets casualties of landmines at a centre near the Angolan capital, Luanda

Joao Silva/AP

DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES

Continued from page 13

lengthy civil war, was a considerable triumph and brought the issue of unexploded mines to world attention, attention she capitalised on with a trip to Bosnia on the same quest.

The formal announcement of the couple's separation by John Major in the House of Commons in 1992, the last straw in the Queen's *annus horribilis*, brought her no pleasure. She did not want divorce, hoping that some reconciliation might be

possible. But, after a great deal of dithering and heel-dragging by her husband, ended only by a demand from the Queen for positive action one way or the other, the divorce went through last year.

Diana was now a free woman, but being the world's most desirable divorcee is an awesome burden to carry. Conducting a romance is near-impossible when the lenses of the world's paparazzi are trained on one's every move.

She said recently that, were it not for her children, she would go and

live permanently abroad. Such a move would have solved nothing.

Jacqueline Kennedy, finding herself the world's most famous widow, opted for the security and physical protection of life with Aristotle Onassis. Diana formed a relationship with Dodi Fayed, a man whose wealth meant that he could offer a degree of Onassis-style security with his villas and guards.

But those inauspicious omens were still haunting Diana. She was clearly quite happy for the world to

know about her new beau, even though she had chosen the son of a man who attempted to win respectability by buying Harrods but who had been refused a British passport and who contributed to the downfall of the last government with his revelations about cash provided by him to MPs.

Had it been allowed to continue, the relationship with Dodi Fayed would probably have ended in tears. Sadly, it ended in terrible tragedy. Even in her death, the fates were unkind to Diana.



The Princess with Dodi Fayed at St Tropez in the South of France, on their most recent holiday together in the Mediterranean

THE MEN IN HER LIFE

Fayed's generosity touched her heart

The last few weeks in the life of Diana, Princess of Wales, were the happiest she has experienced in recent years, according to her friends (Emma Wilkins writes). The growing love affair with Dodi Fayed was 'the Princess's most serious relationship since the announcement of her divorce from the Prince of Wales last year.'

The Princess, who had already introduced Mr Fayed to her sons, was photographed only a few days before her death splashing about in the Mediterranean with the heir to the Harrods fortune.

The pictures – inevitably taken by a paparazzi photographer – showed a carefree Princess with an adoring Mr Fayed clearly at ease in each other's company.

Although the Princess had become friendly with several men after her separation from the Prince – most particularly the heart surgeon Hasnat Khan – Mr Fayed was special. Even the accusations of Kelly Fisher, his 'illegitimate' former girlfriend, failed to dampen the Princess in her determination to continue the romance.

Since the affair became serious during a holiday in St Tropez last month with Mohamed Al Fayed, the Princess took three further trips abroad with his son.

First, they cruised off Sardinia, then Mr Fayed, 41, flew her to Paris to visit the Duke and Duchess of Windsor's former home, and most recently the couple cruised again around the Mediterranean before flying

home via the Ritz in Paris. It was Mr Fayed's kindness and generosity that the Princess found so appealing. The couple met ten years ago at a polo match at Windsor but it was not until July this year that they became especially close.

When the Princess returned home to Kensington Palace she told friends that the trip on Mr Al Fayed's £15 million yacht, the *Jonikal*, was the happiest holiday she had had for years. Mr Fayed,

a Hollywood film producer, was already a friend of the Princess's stepmother Raine, Countess de Chamberlain. The countess, who was in Venice when she received news of the Princess's death, adored Mr Fayed, praising his kindness, generosity and gentleness.

Mr Fayed, who has a self-effacing nature despite his playboy image, was married in 1980 to an American model, Suzanne Gregard. The relationship ended in divorce eight months later.

The Princess's friendship with Dr Khan, 36, stemmed from his work as a heart surgeon at Harefield Hospital and the Royal Brompton hospitals. The ability of Dr Khan and his colleague Professor Sir Magdi Yacoub, fascinated her.

When the Princess visited Dr Khan's family during a charity trip to Pakistan earlier this year, there was press speculation about the nature of their friendship. Dr Khan, who has never spoken about the extent of his relationship with the Princess, was said to be deeply shocked and distraught yesterday.

The Princess admitted her love affair with James Hewitt in her

Panorama interview in November 1995. She was asked by the journalist Martin Bashir if her relationship with the young cavalry officer had gone beyond friendship. 'Yes, I adored him. Yes, I was in love with him,' the Princess replied. 'But I was very let down.'

The pair, who met in 1986 when Captain Hewitt taught Prince William how to ride, enjoyed a love affair as the Princess's marriage began to fall apart. When Captain Hewitt was serving in the Gulf War in 1990-91, the Princess wrote him long and comforting letters.

Captain Hewitt was later censured when he appeared to co-operate with Princess in Love, a gushing account of his romance with the Princess written by Anna Pasternak. He has always denied making any money from the enterprise, but later managed to move from a small cottage to a larger house in Devon.

Although the Princess became close to other men, including Will Carling, the England rugby captain, and Oliver Hoare, the art dealer, the nature of their friendships has always remained private.

The Princess's friendship with Mr Carling began when she met him at the Harbour Club, her gym in London. Mr Carling's wife, Julia, later blamed the Princess for the break-up of her marriage but Mr Carling himself denied there was anything improper in their relationship.

FASHION AND BEAUTY

Glamorous figure who turned heads towards good causes

The Princess's captivating beauty was obvious from the moment she came to public attention. What changed over the years was her ability to project that beauty, becoming in effect her own image maker (Grace Bradberry writes).

Though the endless attention paid by others to her clothes and her hairstyle may have bored her, she was aware that it was partly her glamour that made her such a powerful figurehead for charities and campaigns.

One of her final acts of generosity was to auction 79 of her dresses for the Aids Crisis Trust and The Royal Marsden Hospital Cancer Fund in June. She took immense trouble to produce the pictures for the Christie's catalogue and the pre-publicity, thus ensuring that the maximum amount of money would be raised.

She sat for two photographers, first for the Earl of Snowdon, who produced the formal pictures for the catalogue, and then for Mario Testino, a Peruvian fashion photographer, whose stunning, informal shots of the Princess appeared in *Vanity Fair* in July. It was the Princess's idea to bring along to this second shoot an entirely new dress – a silvery satin column by Versace. She appeared on the magazine cover wearing this, creating a far more modern image than if she had worn one of her dresses from the 1980s. Nevertheless, the auction was another boost for the British designers she had supported throughout her marriage and afterwards – notably Bruce Oldfield, Amanda Wakeley, Victor Edelstein and Catherine Walker.

The stunning clothes were only a very small part of the Princess's allure. She had an ability to radiate warmth, both in front of the camera lens and in person, and her charisma owed as much to her personality as to her good looks.

As she grew older, she became increasingly aware of this glamorous appeal and tried to enhance it when it was needed and subdue it when it might be inappropriate. At charity events, particularly in America, she used it to the full – at a charity ball in Chicago last June, then last September at a breast cancer fundraising gala in Washington. Her presence enabled organisers to charge up to £1,000 a ticket.

But the Christie's auction was intended to signal a switch towards a more serious public image. Ultimately, some of the most enduring pictures may well be those of the Princess, plainly dressed, in trousers and shirt, walking across a minefield in Angola. Even as she took such a risk, she may have been aware that it was partly her charisma that would draw world attention to the victims of war.



One of the 79 dresses auctioned in June. Alan Weller

VANITY FAIR



Cover girl: the Princess was pictured, wearing a Versace gown, in July. Mario Testino

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Demands grow to keep paparazzi hounds at bay

Anti-stalking legislation may offer solution to harassment without privacy laws, reports Richard Ford

THE Government faced growing pressure for new privacy laws to clamp down on the media and curb the activity of paparazzi. Anger about the activities of the media erupted outside Buckingham Palace with members of the public accusing journalists of hounding the Princess.

The calls for some form of action by the Government was heightened by a bitter attack by Earl Spencer, brother of the Princess, who accused every media proprietor and editor who had paid for intrusive pictures of his sister of having "blood on their hands".

Ministers, however, urged caution and gave a warning of the dangers of hasty legislation that could prove unworkable in practice.

One minister pointed out that France had some of the toughest privacy laws in the world but it had been unable to stop the activities of the paparazzi stalking the Princess and Dodi Fayed.

The Prime Minister and other ministers believe that self-regulation with tough penalties is the best way of dealing with demands for protection of privacy. A Downing Street spokesman said: "We are aware of the reaction that has been produced but as far as the Government is concerned, it's really not appropriate to jump to instant solutions today." Last night Alun Michael, Home Office Minister,

said: "It is a time for mourning and taking stock. We should await the outcome of the investigation by France so that any decisions are based on fact rather than on gut-reaction and shock and horror which undoubtedly everybody will share. If there are any lessons, the Government and press should look at them together."

One Whitehall source suggested that anti-stalking legislation that came into force in June could be used to curb intrusive behaviour by the media. Under the Protection from Harassment Act the courts and victims were given powers to end such misery. An individual is

able to seek an order banning an activity where there is an intention to cause distress or where an individual ought to have realised that alarm or distress would be caused. Anyone breaching the order could face two years in jail.

The Act also made it a criminal offence to use words or behaviour which, whether intentional or not, causes a person to be harassed or distressed. This carries a maximum penalty of six months' jail and/or a fine of £5,000.

"This could be used but we will have to see how the courts interpret the Act," the Whitehall source said. However, public anger over the

death of the Princess is likely to force consideration of the introduction of privacy laws and the Commons' National Heritage Select Committee is expected to hold a full inquiry.

A number of politicians from all parties called yesterday for a fresh look at privacy laws. Roger Cale,

vice-chairman of the Conservative backbench media committee, described the deaths as "the ultimate result of press intrusion". He spoke of his "anger at the manner in which two young people and their driver have been literally and needlessly driven to their deaths as the apparent result of the hounding

by the paparazzi". He said: "Perhaps this terrible tragedy will concentrate minds on the overweening power of the press and the need to effect nationally and internationally sensible and responsible regulation."

Lord Callaghan of Cardiff said he did not think that the death of the Princess would lead to any improvement in the behaviour of the paparazzi. The former Prime Minister said the dinner the Princess and Dodi Fayed had at the Ritz in Paris on Saturday night had been a private occasion. "There was no need at all why, except for

greed by the people who make money by pursuing people in their private lives, there should have been any [photographers]. I think most people would regard it as disgusting. But I doubt we shall see any improvement at all in their behaviour."

Sir Teddy Taylor, Conservative MP for Rochford and Southend East, said: "There is little point in thinking that after this great disaster we could solve publicity problems with a change in the law. It is a pointless nonsense to suggest it. There is nothing we can do about it. The only way in which this horrific, nasty and intrusive practice would cease would be if the public at large made it clear that they do not like newspapers which engage in this kind of business."

MIKE HUTCHINGS / REUTERS

Bitter brother says press 'has her blood on its hands'

FROM SAM KILEY
IN JOHANNESBURG

A DRAWN and grief-stricken Earl Spencer, the Princess's brother, yesterday blamed the press for his sister's death. He said that every editor and owner of every publication that had published intrusive pictures of her "has blood on his hands".

He added that he "always believed the press would kill her in the end. But not even I could believe they would take such a direct hand in her death as seems to be the case."

A bitter Lord Spencer, who had himself worked for American television networks covering celebrity stories, read his statement to about 30 journalists outside his Cape Town home, adding: "It would appear that every proprietor and every editor of

every publication that had paid for intrusive and exploitative photographs of her, encouraging greedy and ruthless individuals to risk everything in pursuit of Diana's image, has blood on his hands today."

Lord Spencer said that he had learnt of his sister's death with profound shock. Dressed in a blue jacket, blue shirt and slacks, he spoke after opening his electronic gates to media who have dogged his life in Cape Town. Earlier this year he took out a court injunction to stop one photographer clambering on to his property after his separation from his wife Victoria.

Himself no stranger to controversy after several extramarital affairs and an friendship with Darius Guppy, who was jailed for insurance fraud, Lord Spencer

said all who came into contact with the Princess, particularly during the past 17 years, would share his family's grief.

"She understood the most precious needs of human beings, particularly those that suffered, and her vibrancy and sparkle combined with a very real sense of duty are now gone forever. It is heartbreaking to lose such a human being, especially when she was only 36."

"My heart goes out to the families of the two others killed in this incident. Above all my thoughts are with William and Harry and with my mother and sister who are showing tremendous bravery in the face of senseless tragedy."

Lord Spencer was expected to fly to England for the funeral and can expect to be followed closely by local and international media every step of the way back to a country he left, in part, to escape the British press.

He appealed for his family to be left to grieve in peace. "I ask you please at this time to respect the fact that Diana was part of a family and among the general mourning at her death to realise we, too, need space to pay our final respects to our flesh and blood. For that we need privacy."

Stifling tears and shaking he walked back into Tarrystone House with one last comment: "I pray that she rests in peace."



The Princess and Earl Spencer together in 1969



Earl Spencer, the Princess's brother, reads a statement to South African journalists outside his Cape Town home

If MPs do not create privacy law, judges will

BRITAIN will acquire a law of privacy within months when the Government legislates to enshrine the European Convention on Human Rights.

France, where the Princess was killed allegedly being pursued by paparazzi, already has tough privacy laws. Photographers can be liable to criminal prosecution for an invasion of privacy as well as facing civil suits.

When pictures of a topless Duchess of York showed her with her then financial adviser, John Bryan, who sued for invasion of privacy. He recovered more than £50,000 in damages for the duchess and himself. But despite pressure from many politicians, successive British governments have resisted a privacy law and instead compromised by allowing the industry to continue its self-regulation, backed by tougher sanctions enforced by the Press

■ With media self-regulation unlikely to satisfy any longer, Frances Gibb assesses legal options for balancing individuals' rights against public interest

Complaints Commission. Now, under a Labour Government, a privacy law of some kind appears inevitable, because the European Convention contains a right of privacy and enables individuals to obtain redress.

Even without the present Government's stance, it is likely that a privacy law would have emerged through rulings of the courts. Lord Bingham of Cornhill, the Lord Chief Justice, said recently that if Parliament did not legislate for a privacy law, it was likely that the courts would create one.

The debate now will focus on how that law should be framed. There

are two options: as Lord Irvine of Lairg, the Lord Chancellor, put it, the question is whether such laws should be fashioned by Parliament, in the shape of a statute, or whether a privacy law should be left to be shaped by the judges, as they create the common law through their rulings in the courts.

Peter Carter-Ruck, the leading media lawyer, said yesterday: "I personally favour a new right of privacy and I have framed proposals for this and submitted them to the Lord Chancellor."

He said that he opposed using the criminal law, as recommended by Sir David Calcutt's committee on

privacy of 1989-90. "This would penalise the young journalist doing the bidding of his employer and hamper investigative journalism in its efforts to expose crime and corruption," Mr Carter-Ruck said.

"There should, however, be a right of redress for individuals whose privacy has been invaded, balanced with a public interest defence."

The choices offered are:

□ A common-law right of privacy The most likely way forward is a new tort, or civil wrong, created by the judges. Individuals would be able to seek damages and to obtain injunctions to stop publications.

The Government has no plans to create a statutory right of privacy and Tony Blair is thought to favour leaving a right to be created by the courts, step by step.

But against that, Lord Irvine

points out that action by Parliament could be more specific and comprehensive. In a recent press interview, he said that the press "might think, if they were more intelligent, they would get a more moderate and politically balanced privacy law out of Parliament."

"The common law cannot fashion remedies with quite the subtlety of Parliament because Parliament is all-powerful and can do anything it likes." A tort of privacy could mean "heavy actions and court cases" with large awards as in libel actions, he added.

□ A statutory right of privacy Parliament could fashion a law of privacy balanced by a public interest defence. Journalists and others held to breach an individual's right would have a defence that their actions were justified on public interest grounds — a defence that would come into play with public figures. A first step towards a

statutory right of privacy has been taken. The Government has published plans to control the use of personal information stored on computers.

Some believe this could cover "foot in the door" journalism and long-range photographs of celebrities. The Home Office says that there will be exemptions, including police and security services, but has ruled out a blanket exemption for the media.

□ Criminal sanctions

If Parliament enacts a statute to protect privacy, the question arises whether there should be only civil remedies for any breach or whether invasion should amount to a criminal offence. The Calcutt committee on privacy recommended various new criminal offences to catch photographic and electronic intrusion but the recommendations were never enacted.

Cook: questions must be asked, he said

He also spoke of her work in breaking down prejudices against AIDS sufferers.

"There were two features I would focus on," he said. "The first was her courage, and the second was the strong personal compassion she felt for children maimed by land mines." Mr Cook's next stop, Singapore, was to have been the venue for one of the Princess's next charity events in aid of her AIDS campaign. It would have taken place in the middle of September.



Strict privacy laws 'did not prevent what happened in Paris'

Andrew Neil says stalking legislation should be extended to provide protection against harassment, reports Carol Midgley



Neil: says tabloid Editors and the public should look in the mirror

NEWSPAPER Editors were reluctant to defend their corners in the wake of calls for a privacy Bill yesterday.

Neither Stuart Higgins, Editor of *The Sun*, nor Piers Morgan, Editor of *The Mirror*, who have both paid high prices for "intrusive" photographs of the Princess, were available for comment.

However, Andrew Neil, Editor in Chief of *The Scotsman* and former Editor of *The Sunday Times*, which serialised the explosive biography *Diana: Her True Story*, said demands for a privacy Bill were misguided and were being made by people who had a grudge against the press.

He said that while the behaviour of certain paparazzi was disgraceful, it was also the tabloid Editors and the public who should "take a look at themselves in the mirror" today. Members of the public who "lapped up" prurient photographs in the tabloids, creating the huge

international demand, yet condemned the taking of them were guilty of hypocrisy.

He also pointed out that the tragedy had happened in France, where privacy laws are among the strictest but had not prevented the incident. A privacy Bill would "only bite once photographs were published, and did not stop what may have happened in Paris," Mr Neil said.

"What it would stop is the activities of the *Sunday Times* Insight team and other legitimate investigative journalists."

"A lot of people now gang up on the press are people who have borne a grudge for some time, of which David Mellor and Charles Althorpe [Earl Spencer] are classic examples. Both of them were brought low by the press because the press revealed their own wrongdoing. They are out for revenge."

Mr Mellor, former Conservative National Heritage Secretary, said the

Princess's death was a watershed, a "defining moment" which must herald change. He called for newspaper editors to put their houses in order, but stopped short of calling for a privacy law.

"The world cannot be the same again after this tragedy. We've been robbed of a woman who could have done a lot of good for many decades, who was shaping our future King and to whom her children would turn as a necessary source of influence. That woman has been taken away from us by her hatred and fear of these photographers."

Mr Neil said a national privacy law would be very limited effectiveness against photographers dealing in pictures which were an international commodity. But there was a case for tougher laws to prevent photographers making a misery of the lives of people like Diana. "We have laws against stalking now, though they have taken long enough to

come about. They should now be extended to protect against harassment. If you can simply walk out of a building and photographers come up and stick cameras in your face and pursue you relentlessly, then the law isn't strong enough."

Alan Rusbridger, Editor of *The Guardian*, also urged fellow journalists to respect famous people's right to some privacy. "It may be that it's impossible to find laws that prevent this kind of thing. But I think that shouldn't stop the press from a great deal of soul searching about conceding that people do have a right to privacy. I think the British press doesn't sufficiently differentiate between what is in the public domain and what is in the private domain, and that's something they are going to have to debate," he told the BBC.

Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, was the first politician to raise the spectre

of privacy laws. Speaking from the Far East, he said: "In the longer term serious questions will have to be asked whether the aggressive intrusion into the Princess's privacy has contributed to this tragedy," he said.

□ The London *Evening Standard* yesterday produced a 32-page memorial tribute to the Princess which it gave away free at Underground stations.

In it, Dave Bennett, a paparazzo, wrote that a "small minority" of his colleagues had "made Diana's life hell", blackening the name of other professional photographers.

"What the paparazzi did to Diana was unacceptable. I would turn up to functions, having been invited, ask her to smile and take her picture. Occasionally she would not and I might go away disappointed. But what I did not do was jump in my car and chase her at high speed."

Double edge to relationship with the media

Publicity was both an asset and a scourge for the world's best known personality, writes Joanna Balle

AS THE most photographed woman in the world, the Princess enjoyed a love-hate relationship with the media. While she had many angry confrontations with the photographers who dogged her every move, she often took advantage of the relentless appetite for pictures and television footage of her.

Her self-proclaimed role as "Queen of people's hearts" was built up through skilful manipulation of the media. When she visited a hostel for the homeless or an Aids ward in hospital, she made sure that mainstream newspaper photographers were tipped off. As her marriage crumbled, she dropped the broadest of hints by posing alone in front of the Taj Mahal.

She invited television cameras into the operating theatre to record her watching a heart operation on a seven-year-old child at Harefield Hospital in west London. She also evoked sympathy by talking about the Prince of Wales's infidelity with Camilla Parker Bowles in an interview on *Panorama* with Martin Bashir, the BBC journalist.

Although newspaper photographers were the target for abuse from angry members of the public outside Buckingham Palace yesterday, they were not at the core of her problem of unwanted press attention. Her problem was with the freelance operators who stalked her constantly, who relied solely on her for their living and who were not accountable to an editor, although editors paid handsomely for their pictures.

Motivated by the huge amounts of money that exclusive pictures of the Princess could command, especially those of her with male friends, the paparazzi went to extraordinary lengths to capture her every move. She once described the intrusiveness as akin to being raped.

However, in 1993, Lord McGregor of Durris, then chairman of the Press Com-

plaints Commission, was forced to conclude that the intrusions into "the private lives of the Prince and Princess of Wales were intrusions contrived by the Princess herself and her entourage". He also pointed out that "the Princess had, in practice, invaded her own privacy" by briefing journalists about her private life.

While the Princess sometimes ignored the paparazzi, she would often jump flights and break speed limits to escape them. Some of the more responsible photographers who observed this behaviour from the sidelines said yesterday that her death or that of an innocent bystander was inevitable.

A book called *Dicing With Di*, written by two paparazzi, Mark Saunders and Glenn Harvey, describes an incident in which they chased the Princess at high speed along the M4. Mr Saunders writes: "It took her about five seconds to realize she was being followed. Diana knows my car well enough and I could see her looking at me in the rear-view mirror. She indicated left and pulled across to the middle lane, slowing down considerably and forcing me to pass. And then, in a moment of insanity which to this day neither Glenn or I will ever understand, she increased her

speed and lunched back into the fast lane, coming up directly behind me. We were travelling at 90mph when I felt her bumper touch the rear of my car."

The cars carried on, bumper to bumper, in the fast lane. . . . By now I was genuinely scared. I could see Diana's face in the rear-view mirror. She looked possessed. She was driving with only one hand, with the other gesturing wildly at me." The confrontation ended when Mr Saunders increased his speed and pulled into the middle lane, forcing the Princess to pass him.

In another confrontation, the Princess screamed at photographers "You make my life hell" when taking her sons to see *Jurassic Park* at a cinema in Leicester Square. Earlier this year, she forced another photographer, Brendan Birne, to hand over his film after appealing for help to a passer-by, who held him in an armlock.

Many freelance paparazzi refused to heed her pleas for privacy, believing she was a fair target because, apart from being in the public eye, they knew that she used the media when it suited her.

In her battle against them, the Princess also tried more conventional methods. In 1996, she complained to the Press Complaints Commission about pictures of her on holiday in France, published in *The Mirror*. She also threatened legal action against *The Mirror* when it published photographs taken secretly of her exercising in a gym. She settled out of court.

Last year, she obtained an injunction against a freelance photographer, Martin Stenning, preventing him from approaching within 300 metres of her.

One photographer, who declined to be named, said yesterday: "All these incidents merely fuelled the demand for photographs of her. If she had been advised to ignore us, she might still be alive today."

THE tools of their trade were slow, sputtering motor scooters, cumbersome box-shaped cameras with flash bulbs — and patience.

Four years on their motor-cycles have engines worthy of grand prix races, private helicopters, motor-driven cameras that can shoot 30 frames a second and arm-long lenses that cost as much as a car.

The targets of paparazzi then and now are the same: the rich and famous who alternately court the photographers and run from them.

Since their birth during the *Dolce Vita* era in Rome, their stalking tactics and their love-hate relationship with celebrities have been controversial.

The death of Diana, the Princess of Wales, and her companion Dodi Fayed in a high-speed car crash in a Paris while apparently trying to dodge "photographers" has

thrust them in the spotlight again. Ironically, the last country where the Princess holidayed was Italy, birthplace of the paparazzi. She left Sardinia for Paris on Saturday.

Paparazzi first burst onto the scene in 1958. At Rome's now legendary Via Veneto, American film stars, deposed kings and the residue of Italian nobility frolicked and held court at sidewalk cafes. Tazio Secchiaroli, the photographer who was the inspiration for much of Federico Fellini's 1960 film, *La Dolce Vita*, discovered that editors who were tired of glossy studio handouts paid him more for surprise pictures.

He and his "accomplices" developed the tactics for bringing the stars to life, even if this meant provoking them somewhat. One night in 1958 they immortalised Egypt's de-

posed King Farouk overturning a restaurant table in rage, an American actor punching a photographer who caught him dining with Ava Gardner, and a two-fisted Anthony Steeple lurching at a photographer while the blonde, buxom Anita Ekberg waited in a car.

Fellini, who was toying with the idea of a film on the

cafe society, saw some of their pictures and sought out Secchiaroli. The late director based a character in *La Dolce Vita* on Secchiaroli and named him Paparazzo. In the film, Paparazzo was the photographer who worked with actor Marcello Mastroianni, who played a frustrated gosip reporter.

Secchiaroli, 72 and retired, said last night that the Princess's death showed there were no longer limits of good taste in his profession, but he faulted the Princess and Dodi Fayed for apparently fleeing photographers. "The limits of photographers should be good taste. There is a limit where someone should just say 'stop'. You shouldn't let it get this far," Secchiaroli said.

But on the other hand I don't see why people in the public eye try to run away from paparazzi. At a certain point, they should just let themselves be photographed

and move on. At least half of the fault is that of the people who were in the car."

Paparazzi have changed since Secchiaroli's days. "Today, some paparazzi are more like secret service agents rather than photographers," said Gianni Giansanti, one of Italy's most respected photographers. Giansanti said there should be no rush to lay all the blame on the photographers. "Remember that it is the newspapers that want those pictures and pay all that money for them."

Secchiaroli said the days of the old-style paparazzi looking for a picture that would buy that night's dinner were long gone. "In our day it was different. There were maybe two or three of us on a hunt for pictures. Perhaps today there are too many. In my day we never would have reached this point. There were small fistfights and skirmishes. But this is really shocking."

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Grief felt across all walks of life

Jane Shilling sees an outpouring of grief from the cheap flowers left by nightclubbers to the eloquent tributes of national leaders

"I HOPE," said the historian and royal biographer Ben Pimlott, speaking yesterday on BBC television news, "that Diana will be remembered as a human being and not some sort of Goddess. One is appalled by the way the imagery develops."

But yesterday it was evident that the mythology of Diana, Princess of Wales, was beyond the control of ordinary historical record. Even as her body was being brought home, history had already begun to construct her complicated epitaph.

Diana, the Princess of Wales, was, as Mr Pimlott acknowledged, an intensely romantic figure and around such figures, myths accumulate. Lord Archer compared the impact of the moment of her death with that of John F. Kennedy, the late American President. Others saw in her glamour, her pathos, her largely unacknowledged intelligence and, above all, her frustrated desire to bestow and receive love, a parallel with the film star Marilyn Monroe.

In its impact on the British public, her death seemed like a fusion of the two. "She looked," said ITN royal correspondent Nick Owen, "like all the movie stars you've ever seen." Yet at the same time, he said, she was like a lot of us would like to be — only magnified.

This paradoxical fusion of the glamour of a powerful politician, the untouchable allure of a film star, and the vulnerability of a woman who had, as she admitted, a great deal of love to bestow but was not quite sure what to do with it, lay at the heart of the outpouring of affection that was the British public's reaction to the news of the Princess's death.

In the earliest hours of the morning, tributes to her — touching, ugly bunches of all-night garage flowers with scribbled notes — began to arrive from those who had spent the night in the garish atmosphere of London's nightclubs, both straight and gay. Soon there followed repeated tributes from ordinary people who described, over and over again, a person they had experienced as "good", "kind", "the only modern royal" but above all, "full of life".

"I'm not a royalist but she meant a lot to me," said one young black woman as she laid a bunch of flowers at Kensington Palace.

"So beautiful, so full of life," said Ron and Margaret Hayes from Blackburn. "It seemed a long way to come for a dead Princess with whom they had never had any dealings. 'We've come to pay our respects,'" said Ron. "It seemed the right thing to do."

Many others, too, were overcome.

Paddy Ashdown, leader of the Liberal Democrats: "I am speechless with shock at the horror and sadness at this terrible tragedy. My thoughts and prayers go to her family both near and far."

Bertie Ahern, Irish Prime Minister: "The Princess had won the hearts of the Irish people through her commitment and work on behalf of so many charities and international causes throughout the world."

Terry Waite, former hostage in Beirut: "I hope we shall get a universal ban on landmines, and that it will be recognised she had a major role and contribution in bringing that about."

David Mellor, former min-



Pimlott: remembered her as a human being



Archer: compared impact to that of JFK death

grievous loss because she was unique. No-one ever contained so much compassion and care in one body."

Cardinal Basil Hume, leader of the Roman Catholic Church in England and Wales: "It is a sad end to somebody who has in many ways had a sad life."

Cardinal Thomas Winning, head of the Roman Catholic Church in Scotland: "Diana leaves a magnificent legacy of love and concern for people at the margins of society, not only here but also throughout the world. She was an extraordinary companion to people in distress. The world is a poorer place this morning."

Rt Rev Richard Chartres, Bishop of London: "I am distressed and stunned by the news. Having confirmed Prince William recently, her children will be particularly in my prayers as well as Prince Charles, her family and the relatives of all those involved in this tragic accident."

Lord St John of Fawsley: "She had a charismatic gift of healing of which she was well aware and which she used devotedly and intelligently to help people. Her capacity for love, her charity, her concern were directed towards helping suffering members of the human race."

Henry Bellingham, former Conservative MP for Norfolk North West and childhood friend of the Princess: "The tragedy is that someone who had so much good to do in the world has been plucked from it."

Nick Partridge, chief executive of the Terrence Higgins Trust: "She was one of the first and most committed champions on this issue. It will be a struggle for the Aids community to come to terms with her death."

Esther Rantzen, television presenter and founder of the charity ChildLine: "She gave us personal donations when we started. She was in there right at the beginning. She met deprived children so often in private and she also made many public visits to promote our work to protect children."

Sir Jimmy Savile, television personality and fundraiser: "It's far too big a thing to have happened for us to be rational about it, and it will be days, if not weeks, before those of us who knew her will be able to come to terms with this totally impossible happening."

Liz Emanuel, who with former partner David designed the Princess's wedding dress: "We feel very privileged to have known and worked with her. Our thoughts are with her children and family."

Donald Dewar, Scottish Secretary: "Diana, Princess of Wales, touched all our lives in Scotland, as elsewhere in the country. She had so much energy and idealism. She cared for and worked tirelessly for causes where the need was great, bringing hope and encouragement to many in distress."

Ron Davies, Welsh Secretary: "She was held in great affection by the people of Wales. She worked so hard for the dispossessed and those in need. It is a tragic loss of a young life."

Alex Salmond, leader of the Scottish National Party: "She had enemies in the establishment, and perhaps it death will now accord her some of the respect and compassion which they refused her in life."

Baroness Thatcher, former Prime Minister: "With the tragic death of Princess Diana, a beacon of light has been extinguished. Her good works brought hope to so many with which everyone felt at ease with her which is why she was so successful."

Ted Heath, former Prime Minister: "People throughout the world will feel the loss of her compassion and her courage in dealing with their problems."

Betty Boothroyd, Commons Speaker: "I am deeply distressed to hear the tragic news and express on behalf of the House of Commons our great sympathy for her two sons and for all members of her family."

Robert Jones, the former Wales rugby union captain: "She took on the role of Princess of Wales very fiercely. The lads in the team always had great affection for her and people used to say we played better when she was watching over us."

Michael Barrymore, the entertainer, who spent 2½ hours at Kensington Palace with the Princess recently: "It is a great loss for the world. She is irreplaceable."



The Archbishop of Canterbury at Manchester Cathedral yesterday. He said that the Princess's vulnerability was a source of strength

Carey recalls faith and devotion

Church leaders expressed concern at the role of the media, reports Dominic Kennedy

THE Archbishop of Canterbury paid tribute to Diana, Princess of Wales as a beautiful and vibrant woman whose vulnerability and weakness were the sources of her strength, passion and commitment.

As sombre worshippers packed churches where muffled bells rang in solemn tribute to the Princess, Dr Carey urged people to pray for Prince William and Prince Harry, who, he said, would now grow up without a much-loved mother.

Leaders of the Roman Catholic and United Reformed churches condemned the apparent role of the press in the Princess's death, in "making money out of her".

Dr Carey, who had many conversations with the Princess, said: "She had faith in God, although she wasn't the kind of person who wore religion on her sleeves. There was a deep faith there."

He added: "I found her a very

intelligent person, very committed to people and anxious to get to the bottom of things. I knew her as someone who loved life. She was deeply committed to people, to issues, to causes."

Dr Carey said he had been shattered to hear that "this vibrant person" had lost her life: "It is a terrible tragedy." He said: "She seized the imagination of young and old alike. This beautiful woman was also a very vulnerable human being and out of that vulnerability and weakness, if you like, came lots of strength, her passion and her commitment to people."

"We are reminded through the death of a young person like this that death is only inches away from each of us. Perhaps it will help us to focus on the really important things in life, human love and relationships and faith in God."

Dr Carey, who was visiting Manchester, lit a candle for the

Princess at the city's cathedral and gave a homily on Psalm 23.

The Archbishop of Westminster, Cardinal Basil Hume, wondered whether the nation had exploited Diana. "Did we exploit this girl, if I can put it that way, who is now no longer here to be exploited?", he said on News Direct radio in London. "There are some very important questions to be asked."

Cardinal Hume went on: "We need to remember that a lot of people have made a lot of money out of her over the years because the photographs cost money. They have sold newspapers and, as somebody said, this was an accident waiting to happen. We will need as a nation to consider how do we treat our public figures and what privacy do we give to them."

David Jenkins, Moderator of the General Assembly of the United Reformed Church, said: "Sadness will be coupled with concern over the

apparent role of intrusive media in the tragic event that led to her death."

The Bishop of London, the Right Rev Richard Chartres, who was chosen to confirm Prince William, said that he was distressed and stunned. "Her children will be particularly in my prayers as well as Prince Charles, her family and the relatives of all those involved in this tragic accident."

An unusually large congregation crowded into Westminster Cathedral for High Mass.

Mother Teresa said in Calcutta: "She was a very great friend in love with the poor. She was like an ordinary housewife. She was a very good mother."

John Taylor, President of the Methodist Conference, said: "She brought to all her work a wonderful warmth which won the hearts of people right across the world, often in the support of unpopular causes."

Friends tell of the Princess's devotion to her young sons

By EMMA WILKIN

"Prince William and Prince Harry must have every ounce of love that everyone can give them. She did everything from the heart. Her heart ruled her head which is why, I think, she was so often misunderstood."

The Princess had brought up her sons to see life not just "from the Palace" but "from the street", Ms Monckton said. "She tried to keep their feet firmly on the ground. She was grooming Prince Harry to be a huge support to his brother." Ms Monckton added that she and the Princess had been pursued by photographers on their cruise around the Greek islands. "When we were away she was very, very relaxed even though we were hounded by the paparazzi we managed to avoid them and we had five days of just being together and talking about things that mattered."

Asked about the Princess's sons, she said: "I can hardly bear to think about them. They adored their mother and she loved them passionately.

Left with their sorrow: the Princess's friends Rosa Monckton, left, the Duchess of York and Jemima Khan spoke yesterday of a woman whose heart ruled her head

restore the Princess's status as Her Royal Highness. Although the Princess herself had not been bitter about the loss of the title on her divorce, the British public would regard its restoration as a suitable tribute, she said.

The Princess had confided that sometimes lack of a title impeded her work when she was surrounded by crowds of journalists and photographers. She did not resent it. She had exquisite manners — there was no arrogance. She

did feel the lack of it when carrying out her work."

The Duchess of York, who remained a loyal friend, despite recent strains in their relationship, was deeply shocked by the news, broken to her in an early morning telephone call from Balmoral. The Duchess is expected to return to Britain later today from her Tuscany holiday with Princesses Beatrice and Eugenie.

A statement from her office said: "The Duchess has lost someone she has always considered a sister and a best friend. There are no words strong enough to describe the pain in her heart. The world has lost the most compassionate of humanitarians and someone so special, whose presence can never be replaced."

Lady Annabel Goldsmith, a loyal friend to the Princess and wife of the late Sir James Goldsmith, said: "I am shocked and saddened by the death of the Princess of Wales. As a family we will miss her enormously, and she will be a great loss to the nation."

Lady Annabel, who became almost a surrogate mother figure to the Princess, added:

"At this moment in time my thoughts are with Prince William and Prince Harry, to whom she was the most devoted of mothers."

Jemima Khan, Lady Annabel's daughter and the husband of Imran Khan, was praying for the young Princes. "I'm horrified and lost for words. She was an amazing and remarkable woman, a loyal friend and a genuine crusader who did a great deal for others."

Mr Khan added: "I am deeply shocked and grieved. There was hardly any non-Muslim who worked in a Muslim country with as much devotion and dedication which Diana demonstrated for the sick and poor in Pakistan. Her death is not only an horrific loss for the British Royal Family but also for the suffering humanity in the entire world."

Elton John — who had become especially close to the

Princess since the death of their mutual friend Gianni Versace — was devastated. He said: "The world has lost one of its most compassionate humanitarians and I have lost a special friend."

Camilla Parker Bowles, who is at her home in Lacock, Wiltshire, was "absolutely devastated". It is understood that her plans to host a fundraising party for the National Osteoporosis Society on September 13 have been cancelled.

Andrew Morton, whose book *Diana: Her True Story* first disclosed the unhappiness of her marriage, said: "We will never see her like again, and the appalling irony is that her death came as she was being apparently pursued by photographers. In some ways she was almost hounded to death. I fear for the press at the moment because there will be a massive public backlash over this."

'She could reach out and touch ordinary people just like us'

ON A wet October day in 1981 the recently married Princess of Wales and her husband stopped in the town of Pontypridd near Merthyr Tydfil on her first tour as a member of the Royal Family.

If Diana harboured any doubts about the reception she would receive in the socialist heartland of South Wales, the people of Pontypridd dispelled them. The visit might as well have been yesterday for those who were there.

"I waited for four and a half hours in the rain," recalled Karen Drew. "She was wearing a burgundy velvet suit and a sort of pill box hat with a feather in it. Everyone was cheering. The rain was hammering down. There were so many people in the Market Square it was impossible to move. I only caught a glimpse of her but it was worth it. Even then I knew she was someone really special. I wouldn't have stood there if it had been Prince Charles on his own: she was the one we had all come to see."

The rain was one thing that hadn't changed as Mrs Drew recalled the Princess and their curiously parallel lives. She said: "We married in the same year, our sons were born in the same year and we divorced in the same year. I remember my father saying that she won't be changing nappies like you, but even though she was a Princess she was so natural that she could reach out and touch ordinary people like us."

Mrs Drew, at 38 two years older than Diana, heard of the tragedy at 5.30am when her boyfriend called from his night shift to tell her. Like many her first reaction was disbelief. Her daughter Samantha, 7, was old enough to

The crowds were drawn by the magnetism of the young woman on her first tour, reports Simon de Bruxelles

feel the tragedy but too young to understand.

Mrs Drew said: "She kept asking me, 'What's it going to mean to us?' but you can't explain something like this to a child. Her death is going to leave a gap in our lives even if it doesn't affect us directly."

Lian Merry was too young to remember when Diana and her new husband visited the town, but she too feels personally bereft.

Miss Merry, 18, said: "I wrote an essay on her for my GCSE exam. I had failed it twice and this was going to be my last chance. It was around the time of the divorce and we were asked to write about someone we admired. I wrote about all her work for charity and the way she had kept her dignity. Afterwards everyone else said they'd written about their mums or their nans and I thought I'd gone up completely the wrong street but I can't have done because I passed."

Few in Pontypridd are yet ready to blame the press for the Princess's death. Media attention, said several people, came with the job and Diana had had the option of following the Princess Royal's path back into relative obscurity and declined.

Judith Male, 49, a mature student, spoke for many when she said: "She had a tragic life

word they kept repeating yesterday.

Mrs Drew added: "She was on the brink of finding true happiness. This thing with Dodi wasn't just a passing fancy. He was the first one since the divorce that Diana was happy for the public to know about."

"Of course she had affairs before, wouldn't you if you were locked in a loveless marriage, but I think this was different. It is so unfair. I just hope that now she rests in peace."

Jeff Jones, proprietor of J's Pantry, describes himself as a monarchist but fears the public may now lose sympathy with the Royal Family.

"She was the best of the lot of them and now she's gone," he said. "For us this is bigger than Kennedy, bigger than Elvis, bigger than John Lennon. It's bigger than all of them rolled into one."

"They will make a movie about this and it will be the weepy to beat them all."

His former wife Denise, now an employee in his cafe, said: "This could make Prince William bitter. He has already shown a dislike for having his photograph taken by the press and this could turn him against them completely."

"He is very single-minded like his mother and I am sure he will be very angry at what has happened to her."

Few in Pontypridd are yet ready to blame the press for the Princess's death. Media attention, said several people, came with the job and Diana had had the option of following the Princess Royal's path back into relative obscurity and declined.

Judith Male, 49, a mature student, spoke for many when she said: "She had a tragic life

and we all feel genuinely upset."

"You may think I'm daft but when I heard that Lady Diana was dead, I wept and I know I'm not the only one."

■ Buckingham Palace yesterday set up a special condolence page on its official Internet website so members of the public around the world could pay their respects to the Princess.

The page has a picture of the Princess with a black border and the dates 1961 to 1997 on it.

Visitors to the site can click on to a biography of the Princess, press releases and then on to a special condolence section. The public can then send their message on screen. At the foot of the page, there is a message which reads: "Thank you for your kind message of condolence for the sad loss of Diana, Princess of Wales."

The site can be found at <http://www.royal.gov.uk>

ADVERTISEMENT

Muffled bells sound ancient alert across rural England

By PETER MILLAR

THE length and breadth of rural England, Sunday morning congregations in village churches were stunned by the news of the Princess's death, some alerted to the tragedy by the most ancient, traditional means.

Philip Brown, deputy tower captain of bells at St Peter's parish church in Hook Norton, Oxfordshire, heard the news on his radio at 6.15 am. "My first reaction was what terrible news and the second was how should we signal it?"

By 8.10 he had climbed to the top of the 15th century village church's bell tower and lowered the flag of St George to half-mast. Then, with fellow bell-ringer Nigel Slade, he set about the daunting and dangerous task of attaching

leather muffles to the church bells. "It was tricky because we'd had some guest ringers in the tower on Saturday afternoon and they'd left the bells up for us to save us trouble on Sunday morning," he said. Having the bells in the up position — upside down and ready to ring — meant the two middle-aged men had to clamber across the rafters to muffle each bell in turn.

"We didn't really know what to do, of course. But muffling the bells seemed the only answer. I don't think we could have rung them at all open. That would have scarcely have been proper. We're ready now to ring a muffled quarter peal on the day of the funeral."

Muffling church bells is the ancient village method of alerting parishioners to a death. The message got across, even

to those representing more modern occupations. Keith Barnes, a car electrician, who lives opposite the church, said: "I heard the bells and thought they sounded unusual, and said to Sharon, my wife, I wonder if someone's died. Then we turned on the television and heard the news."

James Clark, a director of the village brewery, heard the news on his radio on an early Sunday morning visit to his office on the edge of the village. He immediately went up to the roof and lowered the brewery's flag to half-mast.

As an unusually large number of villagers arrived for the morning service, Mr Clark's father, David, remained alone in the church tower to toll a single bell for ten minutes. By then few needed to ask for whom it tolled.

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Visibly upset Blair talks of 'devastation'

By PHILIP WEBSTER, POLITICAL EDITOR

THE Princess was the People's Princess and that was how she would stay in the hearts and memories of the British people, a visibly distressed Tony Blair said yesterday in his Sedgefield constituency.

The Prime Minister was woken shortly before 2am to be told of the accident. He was still awake when the news came through from the British Embassy that the Princess was dead.

He immediately drew up a press statement on the telephone with his press secretary, Alastair Campbell.

Mr Blair, who liked Princess Diana and, according to friends, regarded her as a "force for good in the world", was deeply upset. Four months after his election victory, Mr Blair was faced with an unimaginable national tragedy and knew that his task was to find the words to

express the grief of the country. He spoke to the Queen and the Prince of Wales at 9.30am to pass on his condolences and offer any help the Government could give with funeral arrangements.

When Mr Blair arrived with his family to read the lesson at the St Mary Magdalene church his voice broke with emotion as he gave his reaction. "I feel like everyone else in this country today. I am utterly devastated. Our thoughts and prayers are with Princess Diana's family, particularly her two sons. Our heart goes out to them."

He had met Diana just before his recent holiday, Mr Blair said. "We are today a nation in a state of shock, in mourning, in grief that is so deeply painful for us."

Mr Blair continued: "She was a wonderful and a warm human being, although her

own life was often sadly touched by tragedy. She touched the lives of so many others in Britain and throughout the world with joy and with comfort. How many times shall we remember her in how many different ways - with the sick, the dying, with children, with the needy? With just a look or a gesture that spoke so much more than words, she would reveal to all of us the depth of her compassion and her humanity."

The Prime Minister added: "We know how difficult things were for her from time to time. I am sure we can only guess that. But people everywhere, not just here in Britain, kept faith with Princess Diana. They liked her, they loved her, they regarded her as one of the people. She was the People's Princess and that is how she will stay, how she will remain in our hearts and our memories for ever."

William Hague was also at his home in his Yorkshire constituency of Richmond. Alan Duncan, his press adviser, called him at 5am.

Later the Leader of the Opposition said: "It has come as a great shock to everybody waking up this morning and a great sadness to all of us. She was a unique and very lively and attractive individual and so people will feel a personal sense of loss."

He went on: "But of course we should also pay tribute today to the tremendous work that she did for people involved with drugs, people with Aids and other diseases, for homeless people, for young people in general, for causes such as the arts... We should recognise that, and salute that today. She was a shining individual who will never be forgotten and I think that is how we should remember her."

ALL main political parties yesterday declared a temporary truce in their campaigning over Scottish and Welsh devolution after the death of the Princess.

The Government and the Tories suspended all political activity relating to the forthcoming referendums in Scotland and Wales. The political ceasefire raised fears at Westminster that the Government could be forced to postpone the Scottish referendum, scheduled for September 11.

However, such a move would be difficult because the date is fixed by law. Any change would require MPs to

break into their summer recess for a recall to Parliament, something Westminster authorities would wish to avoid if at all possible. The Welsh referendum is scheduled for September 18.

The Government would not want to hold the referendums on the same day. The logistical difficulties would be huge and ministers would not be able to use the expected successful referendum result in Scotland to give a boost to their less certain campaign in Wales.

Donald Dewar, the Scottish Secretary, announced the suspension of Labour's campaigning yesterday.



The mausoleum of Princess Charlotte at Claremont Palace. Murals and plaques have become more of the fashion as the decades pass

Searching for memorial that will last

Norman Hammond on making a place in history

AS preparations are made for the funeral of the Princess, the question of commemoration has already arisen.

Whether she is interred with her forebears or as the mother of a future King, public sentiment will demand that she has a monument.

There will be a strong feeling that it should be more than the anodyne plaques that the Church of England has preferred in recent years. Britain's last royal monument is that to King George VI, in St George's Chapel, Windsor. That was deliberately modest in postwar restraint.

One comparable royal death was that of Princess Charlotte, daughter of the

Alice of Hesse, Queen Victoria's youngest daughter and the grandmother of Earl Mountbatten of Burma.

She died in 1818, and over the next four years Sir Joseph Edgar Boehm created a fine monument which earned him the title of Sculptor-in-Ordinary to the Queen.

Princess Alice caught diphtheria while nursing her youngest daughter Princess May, and they died within weeks of one another. Queen Victoria received the news on the anniversary of Prince Albert's death 17 years before, and immediately decided that "our beloved Alice,"

should have a memorial at Frogmore.

The Prince of Wales, later

Edward VII, suggested

Boehm, and within three

days he had produced a

model showing mother and

daughter clasped in each

other's arms.

The Spencer monuments

at Great Brington, one of

the finest sets of funerary

effigies

in England, are in a private

chapel, although they can be

seen from the body of the

Church.

A monument there would,

however, bring the risk of a

cult and undesirable floods

of visitors; enough monu-

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The saviour spurned by the court

Alone in the Royal Family, Diana saw that the monarchy must adapt to survive. Thwarted in life, she may yet succeed in death — if Prince William continues her mission

One must not allow the lava of sacrifice to harden. Diana, Princess of Wales, always hated pomposity, distrusted the excessive ceremonial of the court, and had a gift for ordinary friendships. She would have found formal eulogies of her personality either tiresome or laughable. From the beginning we should try to remember her as she really was: a beautiful woman of her own time, resilient despite the many sad events in her life, an attractive and warm human being. She had real compassion for suffering, but also a knack for getting on well with all sorts of people. She was fun: she liked to laugh and to make people laugh; she believed in hugs and kisses, particularly for children and the sick. A lovely, friendly young woman has been lost to the world.

What mattered to her most was the future of her sons. When she married, she was very young, though her strong willpower must already have been present. Nobody nowadays would take on the role of the future Queen, which she very much wanted to become, without a real inner conviction. Quite soon she decided that she had something unique and necessary to give to the monarchy. She came to think that the Royal Family was failing to adjust to the postwar world, that its other members had lost touch with the age in which they were living and to that extent were losing touch with their people.

Diana's life cannot be understood without recognising the pains that she

had suffered at each stage of her life. Her childhood was made insecure and unhappy by the separation from her mother; she hoped above everything for a successful and warm relationship with her husband and with the Royal Family. That too failed her; no doubt her childhood had made it more difficult for her to create the kind of secure family life she so much wanted. Suffering can, however, develop strength in those who survive it. Her ability to communicate with people who were sick, disabled or dying, and to give them comfort, was a remarkable human quality. She used that gift, as well as her fame in the world, to help the suffering. The unhappiness of her childhood also helped her to be an excellent mother: warm, loving, caring and, in an important way, serious.

Diana had great gifts. She was largely unacademic; indeed she rather distrusted intellectual interests in case they got in the way of her strong intuitive sense. She was, however, very quick; she could be unpredictable; she had an ability to foresee how the public would react; she was nobody's fool, though sometimes she was thought of as such by those who mistakenly underrated her. She also had a mysterious "star" quality which made her much the most famous member of the Royal Family in the postwar period.

She also had a gift which has played its part in Tony Blair's astonishingly successful career: she could instinctively identify herself with the aspirations of her own generation. The children of the 1950s and 1960s seem to have abandoned the universal hopes and schemes of earlier generations. They no longer believe in Utopian systems of socialism or in any other political theories. They put their energy for doing good into particular projects. Tony Blair was able to win the largest election victory of this century by his ability to represent these ideals. Diana's work to help AIDS or cancer victims, or to outlaw landmines, had the same appeal. She also represented the Royal Family's equivalent of the "new" in new Labour. She did not argue for a new monarchy altogether, but she did believe that the monarchy needed to adapt to the present. I am not sure anyone else in the Royal Family fully understands that, except possibly for Prince William, under her influence.

That is why the loss is so tragic, not only in personal terms, but not only in terms of national grief, though that will be

profound and long-lasting, but because Diana stood for something important in British national life and there is, for the present, no one who can replace her.

There have been three stages of a constitutional argument in which she was largely right but the court usually opposed her. The first stage was the period of her early marriage, down to the birth of Prince Harry, in which the young bride saw increasingly clearly how the monarchy ought to develop but was pushed aside as an inexperienced girl trying to influence an ancient institution which was determined to go on doing things in its own way. There was also some jealousy of her celebrity status. The people loved her.

The second stage, in the time leading up to the divorce, was one in which Diana was becoming increasingly effective with the public and increasingly aware of the issues about the future of the monarchy, but the cooling of the marriage and the eventual divorce were undermining her position. Some conservative courtiers were relieved when the divorce actually occurred; they regarded her as an uncontrollable "loose cannon".

They would not accept that their attitude was already out of date, and that she had a better instinct for public opinion, on which all monarchs ultimately depend.

The third stage has been the one between the divorce and her death. Again, at first sight, the cause she stood for seemed to have been lost. Diana was engaged in making a new life for herself. As a single woman she was enjoying a much freer social life; as a public figure she was making her compassion practically useful; she was continuing to be an excellent mother. Everything was beginning to fall into place.

Interestingly, Prince Charles was also coming to be seen as a more human figure, and public attitudes to the Royal Family were starting to improve. She was probably also succeeding in her plans to bring up Prince William as a thoroughly modern future King. Nobody can yet say whether the death in Paris will have brought to an end the warmth and modernisation which was Diana's contribution to the history of the Royal Family. A lot will depend on how well Prince William is able to overcome the tragedy. He and Prince Harry have, in the most genuine way, the sympathy of the entire nation. Royal policy could now develop in one of two ways. It is possible that the court will make few changes, and

that life at Buckingham Palace will go on as usual. In that case, the late Princess of Wales's attempt to modernise the Royal Family will have ended in failure. Things may change in Prince William's time, but that will be all that is left to hope for, and it could come too late.

Yet history does not usually work like that. It is shaped by great and tragic events. The courtiers will be as shaken as the rest of the country by the grief we all feel. They are human too, and subject to all the human emotions. When remarkable people die in old age, people grieve with gratitude for their achievements; when such people die in youth, people grieve with added pain for their lost hopes. The dead sometimes have more influence than the living.

The Princess hoped for a renewal of the monarchy and she did not want to wait for her son's time. She wanted it to be a strong institution, compassionate and contemporary. That was the core of her life's work. Her divorce at one point seemed to be the end of these hopes, or at least of her influence. Even that was not quite so. Her death could provide a new and powerful energy to advance her aims. She had been, I think, the most remarkable member of the Royal Family since Queen Victoria. She was sad, she needed to be helped, she was entertaining, she was lovable, but she was certainly not an ineffective figure in our national history. At the time of her death she was still maturing, and gaining in her understanding of the world; that we have lost for good, and it is a great deal.

A simple heart in a heartless world

Some despised Diana, but what could have made her bitter made her sweet

I took the Sunday morning ferry into Oban on the last misty, breezy, autumnal morning of the holiday. All we wanted were newspapers; aboard the boat they were all a few days old, still bearing irreverent but endearing paparazzi shots of Diana, Princess of Wales, attempting to straddle a jet ski while wearing flippers.

We had not turned on the radio, so it was odd to find the newsagent's full of people waiting for late editions and talking in hushed voices. Odder still to see two big young men, with short hair and faded T-shirts, openly listing tears from their eyes. But then, we were only a few paces from the souvenir shop which was run for years by Diana's mother, Mrs Shand-Kydd. Here, as in ten thousand other places all over the nation, the bereavement felt intimate. Local, even. Poor lassie, poor thing!

Reams will be written about the royal implications of this short life and untimely death, about its place in history and culture, the role of the media and so forth. But for once there is no need to turn to experts to assist and focus national mourning. We are all experts.

More than anyone of her age who was neither writer nor artist nor preacher, Diana handed round the essence of her self — and, generally for good motives. Sour commentators never convincingly nailed a charge of cynicism upon her. Every child she hugged, every patient she comforted, every recipient of a public smile, every heart she touched at a distance, was getting something real.

So to mourn her sincerely, even personally, does not require blindness or sentimentality, nor canoning hysteria. She was one of us. She wept often enough over other people's tragedies, so we do well to weep for her and her family. And to remember that Diana would have expected us to weep for Dodi Fayed, and for the driver, and for their families too. Simple human mourning is the only appropriate response because despite the complicated, heartless worlds she moved through, Diana showed behind everything a simple heart. She once quoted some lines by the Australian poet Adam Lindsay Gordon, lines which she had chosen herself and which were sneered at by some commentators as "greetings-card stuff":

Life is mostly froth and bubble
Two things stand like stone
Kindness in another's trouble,
Courage in your own.

And that it, really, the froth and bubble will subside and we shall remember the kindness, and some moments of courage.

I first got a close view of Diana's headlong determination to connect herself to other human beings several years ago when I chaired a meeting of Turning Point, a mental illness charity. It was not long after the garish revelations of Andrew Morton, and there was a curious frisson of over-intimacy about the occasion. As she mounted that platform — scuttling, head down, like a schoolgirl giving a vote of thanks — she knew that everybody had read about the marital failure, the loss of love, the bulimia and the suicide attempts. A lot of us, faced with such exposure, could not have borne to be looked at by a room full of strangers. Certainly not with cameras. Beforehand she was nervous, biting her lip, giggling.

But when it began silence fell, and we watched, fascinated, as the Princess deliberately used her own genuine misery and humiliation and confusion to offer comfort to others. She made it acceptable to have "lost it" for a while; she laughed enough to offer hope for every sad woman's future. Afterwards an extraordinary wave of warmth went towards her from the charity's staff and workers. We chatted about our sub-teenage boys and their computer games. My only private conversation ever with the Princess, therefore, was about something called the Barcode Batter which scored by reading supermarket price tags. That was her gift: 30 seconds with somebody and she was part of the mundanity of their lives, and welcome there.

After that, I watched with more interest as she visited hospitals, hospices, sick children, landmine victims and homeless shelters. Again and again and ever more surely, she produced the same effect: she lit people up, made them confide, offered them bits of herself, alleviated sadness with a human touch. Even to speak of it sounds gushing, but it is real: to the suffering, such contact is as useful as oxygen. Plenty of excellent charity workers do not practise such damp-eyed instant empathy. Pocky psychiatrists have opined that it was all to do with her own unhappy childhood and need for love. But what none of them can deny is that it helps, this spark of reassuring, personal, human contact and universal love. It is not the only way of spending yourself for others, but it is a valid way.

Simple hearts see that, so simple hearts loved Diana and always will. She enraged many feminists, who liked their women more combative, and some men who found her sweetness dangerous and feared its "manipulative" power. She was sneered at for her "Queen of Hearts" line on *Panorama*, then feared by politicians when the title turned out — as in the landmine campaign — to have real power in it. But if you were ill or troubled or humble enough simply to accept what she offered, then there was nourishment in it. Nourishment which she drew, by time-honoured alchemy, from her own past griefs. What could have made her bitter made her sweet.

So it was good this summer to see Diana at last enjoying herself, larking around in warm seas with a cheerful boyfriend, less stressed than usual even by the paparazzi, and apparently on cordial terms with her ex-husband. Once or twice it was desultorily suggested that I write about the affair, but I could never see the point: it seemed to me that there was no more public concern to be aired about the Princess. She would find a way to lead her private life, put the past behind her, continue with her charity work, teach her royal sons humanity. Her tabloid stardom would fade in time, leaving only affection and the occasional joke. That is what should have happened.

Now there is only the affection left. Its only right expression is in unashamed tears for her family, especially her sons. When the very worst things happen the simple hearts have it right: kindness in another's trouble, courage in your own. The rest should be silence.

Libby Purves



Diana's death is a stain on the reputation of the press, but privacy legislation is not a remedy

No law could have shielded her

Bastards, reptiles, vultures, vermin, sewage in the gutters of the press. If I were a paparazzo I would be keeping my head low today. The cameras that eulogised Diana's every feature, every movement, every activity, will be widely seen as having driven her into a wall. A comet streaked across the sky of public life and entranced the world. Such hysterical fame has reduced many to drink, drugs or suicide. Few have been so literally driven to their deaths.

After the grief comes the yearning for retribution. Nobody nowadays dies by accident. Blame is

sovereign lord to every misfortune and demands swift recompense. That appears easily satisfied. The photographers who dogged Diana and Dodi Fayed for the past two months appear to have transgressed all professional constraint.

They were insistent, cruel and murderous. With them around, she had no privacy and no dignity.

She was imprisoned behind a grille of flashing lenses. In a ghoulish rerun of *La Dolce Vita*, the lenses leapt from their bikes early on Sunday morning to snap the last, most horrific shot of all.

Yet blame has not done with hunting. Behind the ghouls lie other denizens of this underworld.

The editors, picture editors, circulation managers and bosses of the press have driven the market for intrusive pictures ever higher. Diana was simply the hottest property in the history of photography. A handful of fuzzy shots of her and Dodi aboard a yacht off St Tropez, syndicated worldwide, generated at least £3 million. This put a high price on the couple's heads. But photographers do not set this price.

The cry of the freelance down the ages is the same: "I shoot what I see. The boss decides to print."

Having found its target, blarney simply demands that "something be done". Yesterday a chorus called for that something. The last minister with responsibility for the media, David Mellor (who decided to do nothing, called for unspecified remedies. Yet behind industries are markets. And markets make less tangible targets. Whenever I hear someone complaining about the press "just trying to sell

copies", I wonder who buys these products. Who inhabits this market place, if not readers?

Buying salacious gossip about

royals is like drink-driving and tax evasion: it is deplored in others but not in oneself. Yesterday I am sure many a sermon was preached from British pulpits on the avidity of the public for news of the rich and famous. The exorbitant price for the pictures which yesterday's Puris paparazzi were seeking was set by an obsessive worldwide appetite for any news about the lady. If paparazzi are at one end of a salivating, prurient public. He among us that has no eye for such pictures, let him first cast a stone.

None of this can stem the cry for

intrusion. That is the public thirst for

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A MODERN MIRROR

A Princess whose hopes and uncertainties captivated her age

Few are unmoved and none is now unknowing that Diana, Princess of Wales, is dead, after a car crash, with two others, in Paris. But the meaning of her life and death has hardly begun to be formed. We can grieve — and do grieve — for her family, her personal friends and for her sons most of all. The death of a young mother is always poignant, as is the deadly corruption of beauty, glamour, grace and a compassionate heart. But this column is an open, public place where only so much grief can properly be expressed.

In the days and months and years ahead the most famous of the Queen's end-of-century subjects will become an icon for the century to come. Some may deplore that fact. Others may hope to exploit it — to make the image or to manage the image-makers. What is certain is the fact itself. The life which ended yesterday will be projected well beyond the sadness of those who loved her and whom she loved, well beyond the very many words that we, and others, have found to write upon it today.

It is in the nature of royalty that its entrances and exits demand responses beyond personal indifference, sadness and joy. Kings and queens, princes and princesses are mirrors in which we see ourselves and our times. The death of a princess is a public death. The death of this Princess is a very public death.

The former wife of the Prince of Wales understood much of what mattered to ensure the country's cohesion. She appreciated the place of the Queen's family in assuring the nation's successful future. She saw the need for palace reforms and public reforms. She saw — mostly more in sorrow than in bitterness — the petty jealousies and territorial intrigues that undermined her power for good.

To ignore what she saw because she who saw it is now dead would be a mistake of royal proportions.

More important still, she looked at the royal images of the past and understood the complex nature of the new royal looking-glass of today. She knew the shining surfaces that she held up to herself, the lenses that she loved and loathed with each changing day, the pictures that she reflected back to those who watched her all over the world. She was truly a spirit for her age. By instinct and appreciation she had made herself an unusually multi-faceted reflector of a fragmented and fractious time. Her intentions should not be lost because her eyes are closed. As much of her life she gave a spontaneous sense of capability. She preferred practice to theory, individual action to the collective or abstract. But she strongly represented some of the important conflicts of our time, the tensions between self-expression and opacity, self-absorption and the service of others, frankness and deference, the restraints of public responsibility and the claim that everyone has the right to a self. She was what she was, but she represented much more than what she was. For many people in this country she mapped their history in the past two decades. She made an impact upon the public mind more than any figure from politics or the arts. It is not likely that she will be forgotten.

Initial reactions yesterday ranged from resignation to rage. "Fate," said one wire-haired old man in a wire-wool tartan sweater as he spoke to *The Times* early in the morning by the Royal Bridge at Balmoral. To many traditionalists, and not just on royal Deeside, the Princess had been a trouble and a trial. Yes, she had brought light and hope and gaiety to the House of Windsor. But the price had been too high and the comfort of dullness had returned. In that one word "fate" that one sincere subject mingled all those meanings of "sure to happen" and "sad, it happened" and "strength from it happening" that were felt around him as the news broke over the breakfast tables of loyal, royal Britain.

"Blood," said the Princess's brother as he described the hands of the photographers, editors and newspaper-owners whom he blamed for bringing about the death. "Horror" said callers to radio and TV stations who searched for scapegoats and found them everywhere but in themselves.

From the young Londoners who left wreaths and tributes around Kensington Palace, there were tears: the Princess was a woman whose social origins meant she could never be everywoman and whose early induction to the Royal Family ensured that her life would never be typical. But, in her personal independence, her anxiety about her body and health, her difficulties in managing personal relationships, she was a focus-in-death and in life for many who projected their worries onto her.

Diana's bond with the suffering, reflected in her favourite photograph which shows her in almost Marian mode, was wholly genuine — and recognised as such by millions. It went beyond generalised concern and reflected a true spiritual identification with the pain of others. The esteem she earned from Mother Teresa was the mark of one who recognised a concern for those in anguish which went far beyond the merely emotional. If her activities had simply been motivated by a love of attention, or a need for

occupational therapy, then she would have tired long ago.

The persistence with which she pursued her causes reflected a prompting which was genuine altruism. Although not pious, her conduct deserved to be called Christian. Tears were part of her own persona: the tears of the mourners yesterday, in cities and countryside throughout the country, were for feelings shared.

How should these emotions and memories become a force for good? How can the multi-faceted image become a settled beacon for good? The fatalism of her opponents is one too easy a retreat. When Archbishop Runcie spoke at her wedding of the stuff of fairytales, he seems now to have written merely the first scene of a tragedy, the moment when a young heroine meets the first signs of the destruction that is within her and will overtake her in the end. To some observers the second act has been the brief happiness which she seemed to have found with Dodi Fayed, the man of generous spirit with whom she died and to whose parents goes our deepest sympathy too. But to see a tragic pattern, to see a disaster that will somehow redeem the living, to see pursuing photographers as the Furies of nemesis is to imbibe romance. May such emotions quickly cease.

To see some practical lessons for the Royal Family is not so idle. Perhaps her ideals may be better absorbed after death than they were in her life. Her work went far beyond giving the Palace a more youthful face. She was continuing a powerful tradition. It was by taking a bold and active role in controversial causes, by making judicious symbolic interventions and advancing tolerance by personal example,

that the Victorian monarchy affirmed its position at the apex of civil society, complementing but separate from those exercising political rule. That was the prime achievement of Prince Albert, another outsider, one who had the chance for greater success than the Princess, and whose early death recalls some of the wasted promise to supporting the kind of causes to

Her legacy should help protect the monarchy. The sense of a family which only reclaimed her when she was safely dead could be disastrous. Not since the abdication has the Palace needed sound heads as it does today. The nation will want a state funeral. There should be no impediment to this — least of all from the Palace itself.

VII's friendships did a great deal to encourage toleration towards Jews at the beginning of the century; Diana too helped to dissolve barriers of prejudice. She also recalled the example of another great female Spencer in politics — Georgiana, the Duchess married to the reserved Duke of Devonshire, who directed the power of giddy social whirls for the good of imaginative social causes.

Diana's landmine campaign had no precise precedent and caused political strain. But it should be seen as a development of the Victorian welfare monarchy rather than a mistaken new departure. The intuitive risk-taking of Diana, Princess of Wales, should not die with her. With care and goodwill, her legacy should help to protect the monarchy from its opponents. Without such care, of course, the sense of a family which drove the Princess into exile and only reclaimed her when she was safely dead could be disastrous. Not since the Abdication has the Palace needed sound heads as it does today. The nation will want a state funeral. There should be no impediment to this — least of all from the Palace itself.

As for the press, there will come a time when politicians can hear the bereaved and ponder any changes in policy that they demand. But that time is not now. Legislation almost never makes a worthy memorial. Fierce privacy laws are in force in France and did not prevent these deaths. To say that hard cases make bad law is to demean the anger of grief with the sanctity of cliché. But it would be disastrous if this hardest of cases should produce the worst of laws to impede journalists. And there is no good new law to be had.

The spontaneous outpouring of grief which has marked Diana's death shows how, even in her estranged state, she continued to play a real royal role, drawing significance from the family and institution which she never quite took as her own — and enhancing it. Her determination to use her unique prominence for earnest ends, to use the glass of fashion to magnify the suffering of others, lent grace to the monarchy. She helped to ensure that the public identified the monarchy with social purpose rather than simply Society. And, in affirming that, specifically, royal rule, and in treating her membership of the institution as a vocation which did not end with her marriage, she communicated her own sense of the enduring importance of the Crown. By her public actions she showed she believed in and was a defender of the Throne that her son must one day inherit. That is how she deserves to be remembered. That is how she must be remembered.

Letters may be faxed to 0171-782-5046, e-mail to: letters@the-times.co.uk

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

1 Pennington Street, London E1 9XN Telephone 0171-782 5000

Can press intrusion be blamed for deaths of the Princess and Dodi Fayed?

From Mr A. W. N. Probert

Sir, Four summers ago, the graduates of this college listened spellbound as Sir David Calcutt, QC, then Master of Magdalene, gave a talk on his work on privacy and the press. We learned of a scholarly work of great clarity of thought and irreproachable legal quality. The final paper was very publicly launched by the Government and very publicly ignored.

Unless we are quick to redress this lack of legislation to ensure that no citizen is obstructed from going about their normal lives by any individual or body, be they press, obsessed individuals or even an interfering State, we will soon be bombarded with the next intrusive excesses. We are too late to deter the endless pictures of the Princess of Wales's tragic accident or the grief of the young royal Prince. Ruining people's lives can rarely be said to be in the public interest.

Yours faithfully,
ANDREW PROBERT,
Middle Combination Room,
Magdalene College, Cambridge.
August 31.

From Mr Don Leeser

Sir, My wife and I share the enormous sense of loss at the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, voiced by so many on today's television coverage.

Lord Archer of Weston-super-Mare, amongst others, expressed the view that she is irreplaceable in her work for various charities and in other areas of public concern, and surely in a direct personal sense he is right. Her untimely death will be felt in a very direct way, coming as it does at a time when she was beginning to establish herself as a major force in the world through the promotion of charities and other worthwhile causes.

It strikes us that both her memory and her work could be perpetuated in a most appropriate manner if her family were to agree to the establishment of a trust in her name, dedicated to supporting the kind of causes to

which she felt herself drawn. Yes, she herself cannot be replaced, but if such a trust were to be managed by a group of those close to her and with a view to supporting charities whose aims were dear to her, surely this would be a worthwhile cause and a fitting memorial.

There will be many who would wish to contribute to such a trust, and it may be that a public figure who was close to her, like Lord Archer, would accept responsibility for co-ordinating its establishment.

Yours faithfully,
D. LEESER,
131 Marine Parade,
Brighton, East Sussex.
August 31.

From Dr Christopher Gardner-Thorpe

Sir, On this Sunday morning many are sharing the sadness of the families of Diana and Dodi Fayed. We must not forget the family of the chauffeur too. Nor must we forget those of the media who were following the car. Whatever the outcome of the investigations, the media will feel some responsibility.

The media alone cannot be blamed. Laws and regulations will not prevent public intrusion into private matters. Intrusion can only be profitable when public interest fans the flames.

What is needed is a change of attitude in us all so that each and every act of undue intrusion causes outcry. Those who seek to provide public leadership — politicians, churchmen and others — as individuals can shun the limelight and lead by example.

They can teach that too much public interest in private matters is improper and, perhaps most effective, unprofitable.

Yours sincerely,
CHRISTOPHER
GARDNER-TORPE,
The Coach House,
La College Road, Exeter, Devon.
August 31.

From Mr Donald Winterton

Sir, I am sickened by even the possibility that among the first on the scene

of today's accident — and still taking photographs — were those who hounded Princess Diana. Could the British press not agree to mark Diana's death with a self-denying ordinance — that for a trial period of one year they will print photos of the Royal Family taken only either at their invitation or at official functions?

Yours faithfully,
DONALD WINTERTON,
Wardrobe Cottage,
Wardrobes House,
Nr Princes Risborough,
Buckinghamshire.
August 31.

From Ms Jan Morris

Sir, A San Francisco a fortnight ago the immigration officer who checked my passport asked if I was connected with the press. I mumbled he was, sort of. "In that case," said he, "I want to make a request. Please lay off Diana. The British Royal Family hasn't generally been very popular over here, but we love her, and we hate to see her hassled."

Well, I retorted, God knew she often asked for it. He looked at me with sad reproach then, and today I'm sorry I said it.

Yours faithfully,
JAN MORRIS,
Trefan Morys,
Llanysnumedw, Gwynedd.
August 31.

From Mr John Leatham

Sir, In memory of Diana, Princess of Wales, perhaps schooling everywhere should make its first concern the instilling of good citizenship, courtesy and consideration, but above all respect for the individual and a high regard for each person's claim upon privacy.

Yours sincerely,
JOHN LEATHAM,
Platcaig, Kilmacrae,
Beauly, Inverness-shire.
August 31.

Help for MPs

From Mr John Szemerey

Sir, Peter Riddell puts his finger on one of the weaknesses of Westminster ("Out of kilter with the Commons", August 25) — the time MPs devote to constituency work and their consequent ignorance of key policies or actions being considered by Parliament.

The solution is not, however, for MPs to wash their hands of social cases and local problems: they need sufficient facilities and support staff to handle them. All MPs should have private offices with their own staffs who could deal with at least three quarters of constituency cases, mostly without even bothering the MP. Only the most difficult, sensitive or interesting cases need be referred to the MP, whose decision on what action to take would be carried out by the office staff.

Unimportant as such problems may be on a national scale, they are very important, if not vital, to the constituents who pose them. They must be taken seriously by the MP to whom they are brought.

The House of Commons must look carefully at what MPs are expected to do and to ensure they have the means necessary to do it. Clearly, this means paying them properly (our MPs are now among the worst paid in Europe), and paying for the personnel and other facilities they need. They would then have time for their parliamentary homework, for informed consideration and debate of draft legislation, and for questioning and controlling the Government.

Yours faithfully,
J. SZEMEREY,
76 Marnixlaan,
B-3090 Overijse, Belgium.
August 25.

Olives for peasants

From Contessa Passerini

Sir, I beg to differ with Mr S. E. Scamell (letter, August 26), who criticises others for "surprising ignorance".

The sharecropping system in Italy was officially declared obsolete soon after the Second World War. It lingered on where peasant families continued to live rent free in their landowner's houses: but the 50/50 percentage gradually crept up until the peasant farmer was getting 70 per cent of the crop and the landowner 30 per cent, and the system is now virtually dead.

Most of us small landowners pay bracciante (day labourers) to prune and fertilise the olives in the spring, and contractors to cut or plough in the long grass in the early summer. When the time comes to pick the crop in late November the pickers get a minimum of 50 per cent of what they pick in oil, which in cash equivalent could average up to £40 a day.

For those with small estates using outside labour, farming olives has run at a loss for many years, but the local labour force are not "doing very well out of it" either. Most of the pickers in our area brave the November cold and discomfort in order to have a supply of good, pure oil for their own kitchens, not to sell on.

Yours sincerely,
L. PASSERINI,
Palazzzone,
52044 Cortona (AR), Italy.
August 26.

Counselling has positive aspects too

From Mr David Anstis

Sir, Those who believe that we may have gained from counselling, based on the understanding of it as a process of empathy and discussion with an appropriately informed and experienced professional, should perhaps declare themselves and so offer the evidence which, despite its negative and generalised conclusions, the York University NHS report admits it seriously lacks (report, August 19; letters, August 25).

As one recently and abruptly shunned into widowhood, I found the counselling support offered by the local hospice an invaluable means of evaluating and resolving the enormous gamut of experiences a close bereavement can produce and which, I am sure, are commonplace.

Counselling cannot, of course, inject either fortitude or faith, although these may be induced along the way.

But whilst violent death has become a familiar visual experience from the media, it is self-evident that we are today ill-equipped to deal with everyday mortality.

Our usual social procedures of goodwill and kindly hopes of the restoration of normality are important and always welcome. They tend, however, to skirt the real problems of expressing grief effectively and the need for personal reintegration that bereavement involves. Ideally, counselling can assist the bereaved to confront both of these successfully.

Yours sincerely,
DAVID ANSTIS,
49 Green Lane,
Chichester, West Sussex.
August 25.

From Professor Brian Thorne

Sir, In the same edition as you reported on the research study indicating the apparent ineffectiveness of counselling you carried an article on the psychological suffering of the nation's

Volkswagen gifts

From Mr A. J. Nicholls

Sir, In his article on the Second World War record of the Volkswagen factories ("Can the Beetle live down its terrible past?", August 25) Michael Pinto-Duschinsky mentions the support given to German Studies at St Antony's College by the Volkswagen Foundation of Germany, and refers to "unavoidable moral questions for the foundation's grantees". As somebody who has administered fellowship and scholarship grants from the foundation for over 30 years, I am happy to say that I see no moral difficulty whatsoever.

The Volkswagen Foundation is entirely independent of the Volkswagen company, and its endowment was established as the result of the privatisation of the Volkswagen works after 1993.

The foundation has always shown itself to be a model academic donor. Unprejudiced and fair-minded, it has never attempted to interfere in the operation of the academic programmes it has supported.

Yours faithfully,
A. J. NICHOLLS,
European Studies Centre,
St Antony's College, Oxford.
August 25.

A little wildness . . .

From Mr Mark Dunn

Sir, I was murmuring a blessing on John Brooks and his Liberation Theology for Gardeners (letter, August 27) until I came to his final paragraph: "Wild plants cannot be allowed to grow at random . . .", in which the sunlit vision of future Saturdays spent tilling in the flower bosom of untressed Nature is so rudely crushed.

But the glimpse of an Elysian future lingers on. Surely within the new, naturally laid-out swaths of native planting there is room for some truly unlettered savagery.

It is a miracle that Britain's scientists achieve the successes they do with such resources. Your leading article might at least have acknowledged that the OECD figures show that the UK is the only major country showing a fall in total research and development expenditure as a fraction of GDP over the period 1981 (the first year such statistics were produced) to 1993.



COURT CIRCULAR

BALMORAL CASTLE
August 31: The Queen and The Prince of Wales with other members of the Royal Family learned this morning with great sadness of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales.

Divine Service was later held in Crathie Parish Church.

The Reverend Adrian Warwell preached the Sermon.

CLARENCE HOUSE
August 30: The Lady Margaret Colville has succeeded Lady Penn as Lady in Waiting to Queen Elizabeth The Queen Mother.

The Queen has been pleased to appoint Admiral Sir Michael Layard to be Gentleman Usher to the Sword of State on the retirement of General Sir Edward Burgess.

Forthcoming marriages

Mr R.J.W. Bedford and **Mrs E.C. Sleath**. The engagement is announced between Rupert, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Bedford, of Herriard, Hampshire, and Emma, daughter of Mr and Mrs David Hooper, of Mapledurwell, Hampshire.

Mr M.D. Dubbar and **Miss F.G. Gouldsmith**. The engagement is announced between Michael, eldest son of Mr and Mrs Peter Dubbar, of Murrumbumba, Australia, and Fiona, younger daughter of Mr and Mrs Anthony Gouldsmith, of Burlington, Bristol.

Flying Officer G.E. Hall and **Pilot Officer M.E. Archer**. The engagement is announced between Geoffrey, second son of the Revd and Mrs H. Hall, of Sowerby, Lincolnshire, and Mandy, youngest daughter of Gillian and John Archer, of Kneen, Warwickshire.

Mr J.D. Kyd and **Miss M.G. Laws**. The engagement is announced between David, son of the late Mr John P. Kyd and of Mrs J.P. Kyd, of Stratford, Herefordshire, and Mandy, elder daughter of the late Mr Peter Laws and of Mrs J. Harford and daughter of Mr F. Harford, both of Ottawa, Canada.

Mr A.J.A. Smith and **Miss H.A. Brewster**. The engagement is announced between Andrew, son of Mr Peter Smith, of Johannesburg, and Mrs Anthe Butler, of Lise Hampton, and Helen, daughter of Colonel and Mrs Donald Brewster, of Storrington, West Sussex.

Anniversaries

BIRTHS: Edward Alwyn, actor-manager, founder of Dulwich College, London, 1566; Edgar Rice Burroughs, novelist, creator of Tarzan, Chicago, 1875.

DEATH: Nicholas Breakspeare, Pope Adrian IV 1154-59; Anagni, Italy, 1159.

BMDS: 0171 680 6880
PRIVATE: 0171 481 4000

General Sir John Gibbon

A memorial service for General Sir John Gibbon, GCB, OBE, will be held at 11am on Monday, September 29, at the Chapel of the Royal Hospital, Chelsea.

Sir Charles Graham

A service of thanksgiving for the life of Sir Charles Graham will be held in Carlisle Cathedral on Thursday, October 16, at 3pm. Tickets may be applied for by September 16, from the Cumbria Lieutenant, Office, The Courts, Carlisle, CA3 8ZL.

Birthdays today

Mr David Birstow, cricketer, 46; **Mr D.A. Baldwin**, former chairman of the board, Hewlett-Packard, 61; **Sir Kenneth Bradshaw**, former Clerk of the House of Commons, 75; **Mr Alan Carr**, former senior partner, Simmons & Simmons, 61; **Professor Sir David Carter**, clinical surgeon, 57; **Professor Ronald Cooke**, Vice-Chancellor, York University, 56; **Mr Joe Earle**, arts management consultant, 45; **Miss Gloria Estefan**, singer, 40; **Mr Gwynfor Evans**, honorary life president Plaid Cymru, 85; **Mrs Margaret Ewing**, MP, 52; the Marquess of Exeter, 62; **Air Chief Marshal Sir Robert Fitter**, 74; **Mr Barry Gibb**, singer, 54; **Mr Ruud Gullit**, football player-manager, 35.

Mr Alan Jones, artist, 60; the Earl of Lisburne, 79; **Lord O'Neill**, 64; **Baroness Park** of Mountouchet, 76; **Lord Parkinson**, 66; **Sir Austin Pearce**, former chairman, British Aerospace, 76; **Mr Donald Piggott**, former director-general, British Red Cross Society, 77; **Mr Manuel Pino**, golfer, 45; **Ridge Riverdale**, 96; **Mr Milton Shulman**, film and theatre critic, 79.

MR HENRY THOMAS - On August 27th 1997, to Sophie (the daughter of Mr and Mrs Christopher Cawthron) when he comes in the play of his Father with the holy angels. Mark 8 : 38

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OBITUARY

DIANA, PRINCESS OF WALES

Diana, Princess of Wales, died yesterday after a car crash in Paris aged 36. She was born at Park House, Sandringham, on July 1, 1961.

Not since the heyday of Jacqueline Kennedy Onassis had there been an international icon to match Diana, Princess of Wales. Her picture on the cover of magazines was enough to guarantee sales worldwide, and no personality in history was ever the subject of more unremitting attention on the part of the paparazzi. In that sense, the fact that she should have met her death — with her new boyfriend Dodi Fayed — while apparently seeking to escape a motorcycle pursuit by photographers carries its own cruel irony along with it.

In an age when stars have become drabber and more ordinary, she achieved unrivalled glamour and respect. She developed from being a relatively unprepossessing kindergarten teacher into a stylish and beautiful young woman, always well dressed, and beloved for her gentle and loving nature.

The most successful princesses in history have been those who loved children and cared for the sick. The Princess enjoyed a natural affinity with both children and the sick. She devoted much energy to their care, in a way entirely in tune with the age. Her warmth and kindness found many outlets, particularly in regard to those struck down with HIV. She was spontaneous in manner, happily ignoring royal protocol to bestow a kiss on a child in the crowd, and writing letters to members of the public signed "love Diana".

Almost from the day she entered into public life, the British people took her to their hearts. She brought to the Royal Family not only her very English beauty, but the enthusiasm of youth, combined with an innate dignity and a good sense of humour.

She was not an intellectual: neither a good passer of exams nor a noted reader. But she possessed a canny and straightforward form of common sense. She listened and, whereas she may have found her schooldays boring, she relished her role as Princess of Wales. She loved fashion and dancing, and pop stars and groups such as Phil Collins and Spandau Ballet. In the early years of her marriage she was as excited at meeting stars like Elizabeth Taylor as they were to meet her.

Though she was born into the far from stimulating world of the conventional upper-class girl, reared in the counties of Norfolk and Northamptonshire and veering in youth towards the world of the "Sloane Ranger", her character had great possibilities for development and development she did into a figure of international importance, confident of her place on the world stage.

She was given little support, it would seem, by her own family or that into which she married. Perhaps one of the reasons that the British public loved her as they did was that they always feared for her, and were concerned that she might be unhappy, while admiring her for being a fighter who refused to give up in the face of adversity.

The world's press loved her, too. Newspapers built her up into the epitome of a fairy-tale princess. Occasionally they were fickle and turned on their creation, but it was generally more comfortable to let the world love her, and their onslaughts were accordingly short-lived. The press interest was relentless, however, and it began long before the engagement was in any sense firm. After her marriage, her every movement, her every outfit, her every mood, was the excuse for many columns, inches of press comment. She was a natural joy for photographers, being both photogenic and having an innate understanding of the needs of journalists.

Her face could sell a million copies of any publication, and both they and she knew it. She adorned many a magazine cover by editor's choice, and once, memorably, that of *Vogue* by her own wish.

In this great love for a public figure there was bound to lurk danger. When she flourished the press supported her, but when life was dark it deserted her. In the summer of 1997, the forthcoming publication of a biography by Andrew Morton, a journalist from the lower echelons of the trade, caught the attention of Andrew Neil, the Editor of *The Sunday Times*. Several weeks of serialisation damaging to the monarchy followed. Despite complaints from the Press Council and pleas from the Archbishop of Canterbury, the campaign raged on. It could be seen as a major destructive force in the Princess's life.

Diana, Princess of Wales, was born at Park House, Sandringham, as the Hon Diana Frances Spencer. She was the third and youngest daughter of Viscount Althorp (later the 8th Earl Spencer, who died in 1992), and his first wife, the Hon Frances Roche (later married for some years to the wallpaper heir, Peter Shand-Kydd). She became Lady Diana Spencer on the death of her grandfather in 1975.

Her Spencer forebears had been sheep farmers in Warwickshire, who settled at Althorp, Northamptonshire, in 1506. Cousins of the Spencer-Churchills, they included many connoisseurs and patrons of the arts. Having inherited a consider-

able fortune from Sarah, Duchess of Marlborough, they were able to spend large sums on antiquities, paintings and sculpture.

For many generations they served their Sovereigns, and the tradition continued. The Princess's father was equerry to King George VI and to the present Queen. Both her grandmothers, the Countess Spencer and Ruth Lady Fermoy were close members of the court of Queen Elizabeth the Queen Mother, as were no fewer than four Spencer great-aunts. To her two sons, the Princess of Wales passed strong physical Spencer traits, considerably diluting the Hanoverian strain in the Royal Family.

While the Princess's paternal ancestors were representative of the Whig oligarchy of the 18th century, she also descended through several lines from the Stuart Kings Charles II and James II, who were not ancestors of the Prince of Wales. Other paternal forebears included the great Duke of Marlborough, Sir Robert Walpole, the Marquess of Anglesey (who lost a leg at Waterloo), and the Earl of Lucan, of Balacava fame. On her mother's side there was Irish and Scottish blood, with a sprinkling of pioneer New England stock. Her closest relationship to the Prince of Wales was that of seventh cousin once removed, through their common descent from the 3rd Duke of Devonshire.

The Princess was educated at Riddlesworth Hall in Norfolk, and then at West Heath, a boarding school in Kent. She achieved no O-level passes. Later she attended a finishing school, the Institut Alpin Videmanette at Rousham in Switzerland, for six weeks. Her childhood was somewhat unsettled and unhappy because of the separation of her parents when she was six, and their divorce in 1969. She had more natural affinity with her father than with her mother.

During the period after leaving school, the Princess worked as a nanny, a babysitter and a skivvy. She attended a cookery school in September 1978, and soon after this her father collapsed with a grave cerebral haemorrhage, from which it took him months to recover. In 1979 she worked briefly as a student teacher at Miss Vacani's dance studios. Later she was invited by friends to help at the Young England Kindergarten in Pimlico, where she was popular with the children. She worked at the kindergarten three days a week and at other times she looked after a small American boy.

In London the Princess shared a flat at Coleherne Court, Earls Court, with three girlfriends. They found her a kind and thoughtful flatmate, keen on housework and evenings in front of the television, a lover of ballet, opera and cinema. She loved to dance and sometimes they returned to find her dancing happily around the flat. At the time of the pre-wedding press siege, these girls were to prove staunchly loyal allies. Fortunately, they were content to spend hours in each other's company. Years later, one of them, Mrs William Bartholomew, the former Carolyn Pride, was a source for the Morton biography of the Princess.

The Prince and Princess of Wales claimed to have met in a ploughed field at Althorp where Prince Charles was staying as a guest of Lady Sarah Spencer, the Princess's elder sister, in November 1977. The accepted version of the story is that Prince Charles and Lady Sarah were romantically involved, though not deeply so. The younger sister fell in love with everything about the Prince, was keen to be Princess of Wales, and saw in him a challenge.

She knew from an early age that she would have to tread carefully, and she never put a foot wrong. It was not until the late summer of 1980 that Lady Diana Spencer's name came to the attention of the world. The Prince of Wales was nearly 32 and the subject of his eventual marriage had been of consuming interest to the media for nearly a decade. Nor had he helped his difficulty by pronouncing that he thought 30 a good age at which to marry. As November 1978 loomed, the pressure increased. But he remained a bachelor, and there were times when he looked a less than happy man.

Lady Diana's appearance on the scene focused press attention on the Prince's bachelor state. While a discreet and low-key courtship was executed in private, Lady Diana was pursued to and from work by determined cameramen and reporters and had to resort to complicated manoeuvres to rescue the last vestiges of her privacy. Her subtle handling of the press earned her not only universal respect but the real affection of these normally hard-hearted men. At one point after she had broken down in tears, a note of apology was placed under her windscreen wiper. But the press pursued her to such an extent that Lady Diana's mother wrote a letter of appeal to *The Times*. Later the Queen was obliged to complain to newspaper editors through her press secretary. The Prince proposed early in February 1981.

The Princess made an immediate impact on the world of fashion. The British fashion industry, long in a precarious state, was given a welcome boost by her arrival. Her style was fresh, attractive and original. She became the personalisation of current trends in British fashion, with felicitous results for the trade.

The Princess soon revealed a penchant for outfits of considerable glamour. On her first outing with her fiancée, she had arrived at Goldsmiths' Hall in a decolleté black taffeta dress, a considerable contrast to her formerly discreet image, which caused the octogenarian Lady Diana Cooper to joke: "Wasn't that a mighty least to set [her] up as a King?" Her wedding dress with its lavish detail and lengthy train matched the magnificence of St Paul's Cathedral and her going



The engagement was announced on February 24, after which Lady Diana was better protected. From that day on she was surrounded by what she described as "a mass of smiling faces".

Indeed the engagement was greeted with universal approval — though the Princess herself found her immediate pre-marriage days in Buckingham Palace both tense and lonely.

The Royal Wedding took place in St Paul's Cathedral on July 29, 1981, by the shared wish of both bride and groom. Prince Charles ensured that it was a "marvellous, musical, emotional experience", with three orchestras playing and Kiri Te Kanawa (soon afterwards appointed a Dame) and the Bach Choir singing. Lady Diana chose her favourite school hymn, *I vow to thee my Country*.

Many heads of state attended, including nearly all the crowned heads of Europe, President Mitterrand of France, and Mrs Nancy Reagan, wife of the then President of the United States. The King of Tonga required a special chair to be built to support his mighty frame. By the shared wish of both bride and groom, Prince Charles ensured that it was a "marvellous, musical, emotional experience", with three orchestras playing and Kiri Te Kanawa (soon afterwards appointed a Dame) and the Bach Choir singing. Lady Diana chose her favourite school hymn, *I vow to thee my Country*.

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The love of solitude to which the Prince adhered even after marriage, combined with his love of polo and hunting, inevitably left the Princess on many occasions without him. But both parents shared an adoration for their children.

Even as the world rejoiced on their wedding day, the Princess was aware that she had not entirely captured Prince Charles's heart. Yet she always felt that she would win him. He most probably felt that the marriage was akin to an arranged one, and some have said that he did not enter into it in the same spirit as his bride. When the Princess realised that Prince Charles was never entirely to reciprocate the love she felt for him, she, like many mothers, transferred much of her devotion to her sons.

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away outfit was chic and stylish. The fair fringe she favoured early in the marriage was widely copied for a time.

Very soon the Princess was pregnant, giving birth to a boy, Prince William of Wales, on June 21, 1982. A second son, Prince Harry, followed in September 1984.

In the early years of the marriage the Princess normally undertook joint engagements. This was the period of the Princess's apprenticeship. But it soon became clear that of the two it was her that the public most wished to see, and Prince Charles was to some extent reduced to a mate dancer supporting his glorious ballerina in her pirouettes.

While the popularity of his bride should have delighted him, it added a sense of pointlessness to his slightly frustrated life. Equally, he was irritated when he tried to make an important speech, and urged more compassion for those dying of AIDS. When she and the Prince of Wales appeared together in television interviews, it was not long before she was the more articulate of the two, leaving him almost monosyllabic, despite an earlier reputation for fluency.

The modern manner is for members of the Royal Family to be actively involved with any organisation of which they are patron or president. Until she gave up most of her charitable commitments at the end of 1993, the Princess was never merely a figurehead, but served directly as fundraiser, promoter, chairman of meetings — and, of course, as public spokesman.

She gave her support to an enormous number of charities, in a wide range of fields. Among her key presidencies or patronages were Barnardo's; the Great Ormond Street Hospital for Children; Centrepoint; English National Ballet; RADA; the Royal Academy of Music; the Leprosy Mission; the National AIDS Trust; Help the Aged; and the National Meningitis Trust.

The respective backgrounds of the Prince and Princess of Wales were an additional challenge in the creation of a happy family atmosphere. She had come from a broken home, while his upbringing had been formal to say the least. His early companion had been his nanny, and he lacked any close involvement with his parents.

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In 1989 the Princess returned to

the United States this time for a less glitzy trip to New York, where she visited centres for the homeless and dying children in the AIDS ward of Harlem Hospital. She was dubbed, in American parlance, "Bigger than Gorbachev, Better than Bush". There was a visit to Kuwait (where security was intense following the Salman Rushdie affair), and the United Arab Emirates. In June she and the Prince revisited Australia, and in November they went on a Far East tour, taking in Indonesia and Hong Kong.

Visiting Nigeria in 1990, the Princess saw much suffering at first hand, and pointedly shook hands with the chief of a leper colony. In May the same year she and the Prince paid the first royal visit to a Warsaw Pact country, when they travelled to Hungary. In October the Princess went alone to Washington for a ballet gala and to further understanding of AIDS.

In November she and the Prince

went to Japan for the enthronement

of Emperor Akihito (a visit sur-

rounded by controversy in Britain).

There were also visits to Brussels,

to British troops in Germany, to

Prague, and to Expo 92 in Seville.

Besides the birth of her two

children, there were other events of

significance in her years of mar-

riage. She much encouraged the

union between Prince Andrew and

his friend Sarah Ferguson, and she

was delighted when they married in 1986. For some years they remained close friends and confi-

dantes, and it was a cause of dis-

trress to her when that marriage

came apart in the spring of 1992.

The Duchess of York had ap-

peared to be a good ally at court,

never as glamorous as the Princess,

never likely to threaten her place in

the esteem of the general public, but

but certainly her friend. But the

arrival of the Duchess of York was,

in retrospect, a damaging thing for

the Princess of Wales, for she began

to be tarnished by the new Duch-

ess's fun-loving and sometimes

irresponsible attitude.

The two may have seemed alike in character, but they were essentially different, the Princess being a great deal more dutiful and less interested in the perks. But the Duchess of York influenced her somewhat and it was during the time when they were close that the two Royal Highnesses prod-

ed their friends with the tip of their fiddles.

She was a good dancer, and

she was good at tennis, and she was

good at golf, and she was good at

swimming, and she was good at

hiking, and she was good at

skiing, and she was good at

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DEATH OF THE PRINCESS

Prince brings home her body

■ A sombre Prince of Wales flew home from Paris with the body of his former wife Diana, Princess of Wales, to prepare for official mourning and a possible state funeral. The Prince, who arrived with the coffin at RAF Northolt, was met by Tony Blair. Last night he returned to Balmoral. Page 1

Hundreds gather at scene of accident

■ On a sunny Sunday, one day before France's September return to post-holiday work, a sense of unreality pervaded Paris as hundreds of citizens gathered outside the Left Bank hospital and visited the scene of the accident. Page 2

Death in the underpass

■ Only a thin line of brown sand spread about 40 yards beside a narrow left-hand kerb marked the spot where the Princess was fatally injured in an orange-lit underpass - apparently witnessed, in death as in life, by the paparazzi. Page 3

Crowds weep outside palaces

■ Thousands of mourners gathered at Buckingham and Kensington palaces from early morning as people learnt of the tragedy in Paris. In widespread displays of grief, men and women wept openly while others sat quietly on the ground with their heads in their hands. Page 4

Princes attend Crathie Church

■ Looking sombre but remarkably composed, Prince William and Prince Harry, left Balmoral Castle to attend Crathie church with other members of the Royal Family. Page 5

Mother Teresa mourns her friend

■ Mother Teresa, whom the Princess knew for five years, expressed sorrow, said nuns from the Roman Catholic order around the world were praying for her. Page 6

Her life doomed from the start

■ From the moment of her birth on July 1, 1961, the omens for the life of Lady Diana Spencer were inauspicious. The stars were ill-conjoined for contentment, or even luck. Pages 8-14

Earl Spencer blames the press

■ A drawn and grief-stricken Earl Spencer, the Princess's brother, blamed the press. He said that every editor that had published intrusive pictures "has blood on his hands". Page 15

Love and hate for the paparazzi

■ As the world's most photographed woman, the Princess enjoyed a love-hate relationship with the paparazzi. She often took advantage of the appetite for pictures. Page 16

Disquiet over snatched pictures

■ Clashes between celebrities and paparazzi in pursuit of snatched photographs are becoming commonplace and have led to growing backlash from public figures. Page 17

Dodi Al Fayed brought home

■ A grief-stricken Mohammed Al Fayed was flying back to Britain with the body of Dodi, his first-born child, whom he was grooming to take over his Harrods empire. Page 19

Prime Minister's tribute

■ Diana, Princess of Wales was the People's Princess and that was how she would stay in the hearts and memories of the British people forever, a distressed Tony Blair said. Page 22



Mirzeta Gubelic, 15, who lost her leg in a Bosnian landmine explosion, mourns the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, yesterday

OTHER NEWS

Student grants: The Government has decided to scrap the grant a year earlier than expected in a move which will remove support from up to 100,000. Page 29

Ulster talks: David Trimble, the Unionist leader, begins the most critical week of his political career when he holds talks with Archbishop Sean Brady, head of the Catholic Church in Ireland. Page 30

Good reading: Britain's favourite children's book is Roald Dahl's *Matilda*. The choice was described as delivering "a poke in the eye for political correctness". Page 31

Montserrat: Plans for a new capital will be presented to George Foulkes, the International Development Minister, during his visit to the island. Page 33

Future shock: Richard Morrison has seen the future of progressive music - and it works! He was dazzled by *Black on White*, "music theatre for 18 players" by the composer Heiner Goebbels. Page 38

Rail commuting: Connex, train operator, aims to avoid up to £10 million in compensation costs by claiming it was not responsible for a disruptive overtime ban. The rail franchising director thinks differently. Page 36

FEATURES

Money matters: Almost all of us want it but we're far too embarrassed to talk about it. In the first extract from her book, *The Real Meaning of Money*, Dorothy Rowe argues that before we can appreciate the true value of money we must first learn to understand ourselves. Page 34

Radio Shakespeare: "With this channel the BBC could do for history, the arts, the sciences, literature and philosophy what it has done so effectively for classical music," says Melvyn Bragg. Page 38

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BUSINESS

Television: Michael Green of Carlton tells how dinner with Virginia Bottomley persuaded him to take a gamble on digital. Page 37

Sterling: Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, said that the pound's current strength could not be maintained. Page 36

Pay: Labour market watchers predict a hot autumn for pay talks as general wage settlements edged above rises of 4 per cent and local shortages produce isolated increases of 15-20 per cent. Page 36

Rail commuting: Connex, train operator, aims to avoid up to £10 million in compensation costs by claiming it was not responsible for a disruptive overtime ban. The rail franchising director thinks differently. Page 36

SPORT

Golf: Miguel Angel Martín has been given three days to prove his fitness for the Europe Ryder Cup team. Page 56, 54

Football: Simon Barnes watches Rio Ferdinand, the West Ham United centre half who has been included in the England squad at the age of 18. Page 51

Criquet: In what may well be its final year in the present format, the county championship is heading for a thrilling conclusion with seven counties involved. Page 46

Olympic Games: Cape Town and Buenos Aires are attempting to lead the Games down a new route as they await the decision on the 2004 event. Page 47

Tennis: Greg Rusedski has a place in the quarter-finals of the US Open in his sights when he meets Daniel Vacek today. Page 52

Rugby union: Leicester Tigers showed that they are in good shape for the demanding season ahead when they overcame Gloucester in their first match in the Allied Dunbar Premiership. Page 44

Sailing: The volunteers that took part in the BT Global Challenge have been slowly coming to terms with everyday life. Page 42

HIDAJET DELICAP

Review: For those of us in need of cheering up, Stephen Hawking's *Universe* (BBC2) did not seem the place to be. Preview: *Mastermind*, the last final - from Orkney (BBC1, 7.30pm) Page 54, 55

RADIO & TV

Mirror of our time

In the days and months and years ahead the most famous of the Queen's end-of-century subjects will become an icon for the century to come. The life which ended yesterday will be projected well beyond the sadness of those who loved her and whom she loved, well beyond the very many words that we, and others, have found to write upon it today. Page 25

OPINION

Labour slider aye

COLUMNS

WILLIAM REES-MOGG

One must not allow the love of sanctification to harden. Diana, Princess of Wales, always hated pomposity, distrusted the excessive ceremonial of the Court, and had a gift for ordinary friendships. She would have found formal eulogies of her personality either tiresome or laughable. Page 24

SIMON JENKINS

Bastards, reptiles, vultures, vermin, sewage in the gutters of the press. If I were a paparazzo I would be keeping low. Page 24

LIBBY PURVES

Reams will be written about the royal implications of this short life and untimely death, about its place in history and culture, the role of the media and so forth. But for once there is no need to turn to experts to assist and focus national mourning. We are all experts. Page 24

OBITUARIES

Diana, Princess of Wales. Page 27

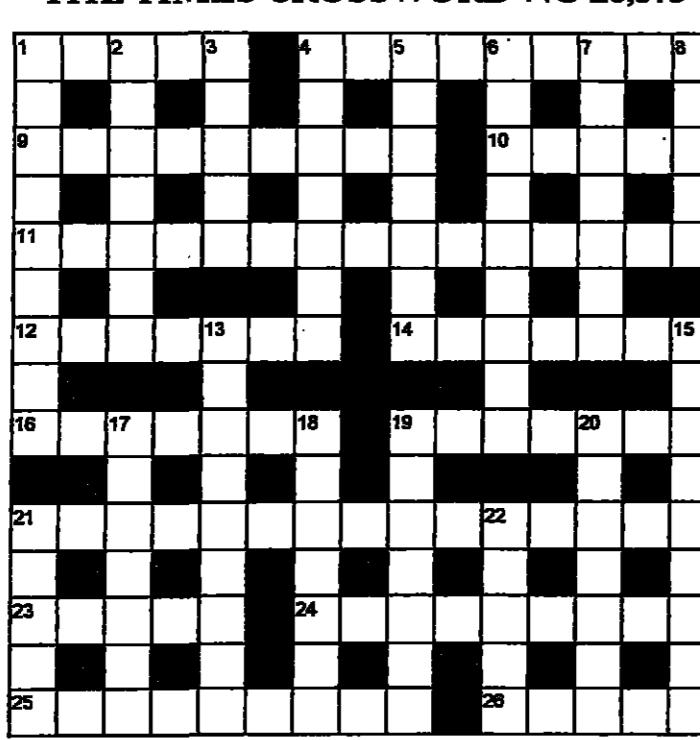
LETTERS

The Princess of Wales: counselling scientists; MPs' pay; sharecropping; Volkswagen Foundation; wild gardens; interviews ... Page 25

THE PAPERS

Even if the IRA truce holds the forthcoming talks with Sinn Fein at the negotiating table will be strewn with obstacles. The likely outcome is foreseeable from the start. An autonomous Northern Ireland still part of the United Kingdom but with formal links of co-operation with Dublin. — *La Repubblica*, Rome

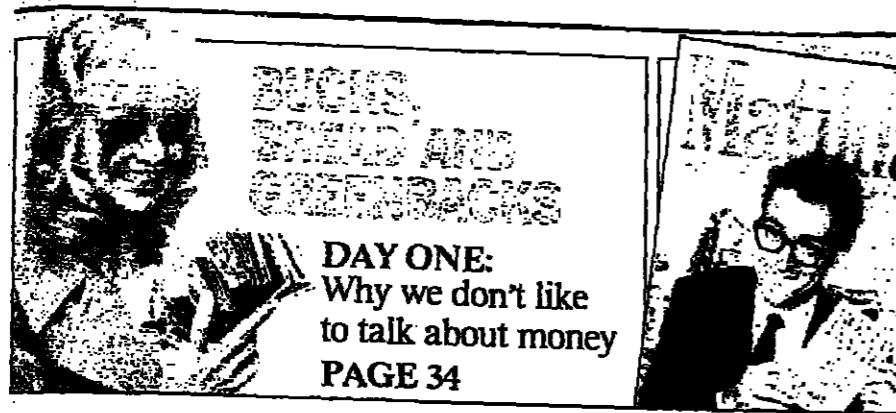
THE TIMES CROSSWORD NO 20,573



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BRITAIN'S
BEST-LOVED
CHILDREN'S
BOOK
The BBC/Waterstone's
choice
PAGE 31

UNDER THE SKIN OF SPORT 17 PAGES
THE TIMES
ITF
INTERACTIVE TEAMSPORT
Enter your fantasy team
PAGE 39

Up to 100,000 will lose state support

Labour scraps student grant a year early

By DAVID CHARTER, EDUCATION CORRESPONDENT



THE GOVERNMENT has decided to scrap the student grant one year earlier than expected in a move which will remove state support from up to 100,000 students.

David Blunkett, the Education Secretary, has rejected plans to phase out the annual £1,700 maintenance grant — which covers living costs — over three years. *The Times* has learnt that ministers will instead cut the grant in half next year and abolish it in 1999 in an attempt to tackle the growing crisis in higher education funding.

The decision to speed up the process, to be announced later in the autumn, is likely to trigger another scramble for university places next year. Under the latest proposal, all students who start receiving a grant will be able to continue at the same level for the duration of their course, increasing the incentive to secure the last grant next year.

Ministers, who are threatened with a backbench revolt over their decision to impose tuition fees of £1,000 on students from September 1998, are anxious to implement electorally difficult decisions early in their term of office.

Official sources had said the grant would be phased out over three years after July. Blunkett announced in July that it would eventually be replaced by a loan.

Today's disclosure will increase the pressure on ministers to make plain whether they will introduce bursaries to help students on longer courses, particularly those studying medicine, who will lose up to £10,000.

Mandatory grants to help with living costs were intro-

duced in 1962, when a government inquiry, the Anderson Committee, concluded that grants would "ensure that those qualified to take advantage of costly facilities are not deterred from doing so".

The Government has yet to clarify how much universities will benefit from these extra costs for students. Vice-chancellors, who predict a shortfall of £3 billion by 2000, are fighting to retain as much as

possible. Although ministers have promised that universities can keep the tuition fees, the amount the Government will continue to pay them for courses is under review. Kim Howells, an Education Minister, last week told vice-chancellors that no decisions had been made on university funding for 1998-99.

But an Education Department spokesman, admitting the decision to scrap grants earlier than expected, said:

"Next year is a transition year when about half the grants will be replaced with the loan. The following year the loan will be extended further as the grant moves to nothing. We have said it would be phased out in two to three years."

Vice-chancellors have become increasingly uneasy about plans to centralise university funding and fear the Treasury may be the main beneficiary. Not only will the payment of tuition costs be removed from local education authorities and handed to the funding council quangos, but there are signs that fee collection may be handled by the new student support agency recommended by Sir Ron.

Existing TV technology could be switched off in ten years

By RAYMOND SNOODY, MEDIA EDITOR

THE Government is examining plans to encourage the development of digital television in the UK by switching off existing analogue broadcasts within a decade.

Any decision to set a ten-year deadline for moving channels such as BBC1, BBC2 and ITV to digital would be politically controversial. It would mean that everyone in the UK would have to get a new television set or a digital "black box" if they wanted to continue to watch television. The black box is expected to cost between £200 and £300 when it comes on the market.

The move is among a range of options being considered by Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sport Secretary, who has declared himself an enthusiast for the new technology and is eager to promote its use.

British Digital Broadcasting and the UK's main broadcasters plan to launch up to 40 channels of digital terrestrial television in autumn next year. For the

foreseeable future the main television channels will be broadcast simultaneously in analogue and digital, but there would be enormous commercial advantages in eventually moving all television channels to digital, as is already planned in America.

It would allow the existing analogue frequencies to be sold in a multi-billion-pound auction for use for mobile communications.

Michael Green, chairman of British Digital Broadcasting, the main commercial digital terrestrial television operator, and chairman of Carlton Communications, said in an interview with *The Times*: "The Government is going to turn off the unlogged signal. It is going to announce at some point when it is going to turn off the unlogged signal. Chris Smith has asked how he can help us on digital terrestrial."

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British Digital Broadcasting and the UK's main broadcasters plan to launch up to 40 channels of digital terrestrial television (DTT), which would

allow viewers to get many new channels without the need for satellite dishes or cable connections. "We are looking at a range of different options. We are anxious to assist the development of DTT," he said.

It is believed that NERA, a firm of communications consultants, has been called in to assist with the decision. As well as setting a target date for the ending of analogue transmissions, another option that is being looked at would involve auctioning the frequencies well in advance to provide money to subsidise the cost of the digital black box receivers for the public.

The previous Government decided against setting a final date for the end of analogue broadcasts. Instead it decided to review the situation in five years or when 50 per cent of the country had digital-receiving equipment, whichever came first.

Michael Green, page 37

Tribal hero's skull starts journey home

the campaign for the return of the remains of the 19th-century warrior Yagan, said: "We are grateful that we can go home with the spiritual embodiment of Yagan, our great hero." The skull

was brought to Britain as a trophy in 1833 and buried in a Liverpool cemetery. Richard Wilkes, left, said that Yagan's spirit would be freed when it was reburied beside the rest of the body. Councillor

Eileen Devaney, who presented the skull to the elders, said she hoped it made amends for some of the pain caused to indigenous peoples all over the world. "It reflects a part of British imperialism and imperialism which these days we feel ashamed of; that dark part in our history." The exhumation was undertaken with funding from the Australian Government.

Self-financing legal aid proposed by barristers

By FRANCES GIBB, LEGAL CORRESPONDENT

PLANS for self-financing legal aid in which winning litigants pay part of their damages into a central pot that funds the legal costs of losers are being considered by the Government.

The plans for a "contingency legal aid fund" could open access to justice to thousands of middle-income people who cannot afford lawyers' fees and who fall outside eligibility for legal aid.

Along with the wider use of "no win, no fee" work, under which lawyers charge fees if they win, the new fund could form a main plank of an overhaul of the £1.6 billion legal aid scheme expected later this year.

The idea, from the Bar, has been put to the Lord Chancellor's Department and to Sir

Peter Middleton, chairman of BZW and former Treasury mandarin, who was asked by the Lord Chancellor, Lord Irvine of Lairg, to review ways to curb the legal aid bill and better target its funds. The Bar is expected to publish details shortly.

The Law Society, the professional body of solicitors, is in favour of the scheme in principle but says it is crucial to choose the right model.

Geoff Hoon, the minister at the Lord Chancellor's Department responsible for legal aid reforms, said: "Certainly any suggestion — particularly one which is presented as self-financing — is obviously going to be very appealing."

The test would be how much initial "start-up" funding was

required and how the idea fitted any proposals that Sir Peter might make. However, Mr Hoon added: "There is no doubt that we would look favourably at any such scheme the Bar comes up with."

As a more effective way of delivering legal aid, Mr Hoon favours extending the "no win" scheme to all civil disputes where money is involved. At present the scheme is confined to personal injury work, insolvency cases and human rights cases.

But a report due out shortly from the Lord Chancellor's own watchdog on the legal profession, the Advisory Committee on Education and Conduct, is expected to endorse the workings of the scheme over the past two years.

Furious
Short
hints that
she may
bow out

By JAMES LANDALE
POLITICAL REPORTER

CLARE SHORT, the International Development Secretary, launched a fresh attack on political spin-doctors and hinted that their "bile and dishonesty" could force her to resign.

She was infuriated by claims last week that she had been sidelined by a new Whitehall action group which was taking charge of the crisis in Montserrat.

Ms Short angered Montserratians when she suggested that the island's politicians would end up demanding "golden elephants" in compensation for the plight caused by continued volcanic eruptions, a remark she later conceded had been unfortunate.

In an interview with a newspaper at the weekend, she blamed the Foreign Office and Downing Street press departments for reports in the media that the Foreign Office was taking over co-ordination of policy on the Montserrat crisis.

Ms Short has clashed with spin-doctors in the past, notably last summer when she criticised the "dark forces" surrounding Tony Blair — widely seen as a reference to Peter Mandelson, the Minister without Portfolio.

She told *The Independent* on Sunday: "I've been here a few times and this is the pattern. It is not to do with the truth. It is to do with finding a scapegoat, but I am shocked that complete misinformation can go so far."

She dropped a hint that she may be forced out of office by such spin-doctors. "There comes a time in politics when you think, 'Gosh, if I have to live with this much bile and dishonesty, there's a limit to my capacity to take it.'

Attacking Foreign Office staff for media reports that she had been "sidelined" over Montserrat, she said there had been "briefing out of the reactionary end of the Foreign Office and they clearly don't know anything about me". She said she was the "whipping girl" for people who cannot bear the idea of an independent department with an aid budget which is committed to development and not to Britain's short-term interest. They are out to destroy the department." There were, she said, "voices that look backward at Britain's role in the world and rather yearn for Empire".



Short said she had been made a "whipping girl"

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Wicked Roald Dahl is children's choice



The grown-ups' preferences for best children's books, products of a gentler age

The politically uncorrect author has taken seven of the top ten titles for under-16s, reports Tim Jones

BRITAIN'S favourite children's book is Roald Dahl's *Matilda*, a poll has found. The choice was described as delivering "a poke in the eye for political correctness".

More than 10,000 people who voted in a poll organised by BBC1's *Bookworm* programme and Waterstone's, the booksellers, decided that when it comes to entertaining and understanding children, Dahl was the master.

There were three lists: the top 20 books enjoyed by under-16s; the adult choice of best children's book; and the overall positions. All readers, irrespective of age, decided that *Matilda*, the story of a book-loving child who exacts revenge on her parents when they force her to watch television instead, was a classic.

Top 20 overall titles

1	Matilda	Roald Dahl
2	The Wind in the Willows	Kenneth Grahame
3	The Lion, the Witch and the Wardrobe	C S Lewis
4	Winnie-the-Pooh	A A Milne
5	The Hobbit	J R R Tolkien
6	Charlie and the Chocolate Factory	Roald Dahl
7	Swallows and Amazons	Arthur Ransome
8	The BFG	Roald Dahl
9	Alice in Wonderland	Lewis Carroll
10	The Secret Garden	Frances Hodgson Burnett
11	James and the Giant Peach	Roald Dahl
12	The Witches	Roald Dahl
13	Little Women	Louis M Alcott
14	The House at Pooh Corner	A A Milne
15	George's Marvellous Medicine	Roald Dahl
16	The Twits	Roald Dahl
17	Lord of the Rings	J R R Tolkien
18	Goodnight Mr Tom	Michelle Magorian
19	Fantastic Mr Fox	Roald Dahl
20	Anne of Green Gables	L M Montgomery

Honor Wilson-Fletcher, publicity manager for Waterstone's, said: "This is a poke in the eye for political correctness. It shows that children can enjoy tales that have a rather dark side to them. Children expect awful things to happen and can read about them without growing up to it in any way strange."

She said that the inclusion of Jacqueline Wilson's book *Double Act*, about the problems of being a twin, which came tenth in the under-16s list, showed that young children were concerned with contemporary issues and not just with such escapism as bunnies bolting down rabbit holes.

The over-16s, reflecting perhaps a gentler age, decided that Kenneth Grahame's

Wind in the Willows was the seminal children's book, with C.S. Lewis's *The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe* second and A.A. Milne's *Winnie-the-Pooh* third. For them, Dahl came eighth with *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory*.

But when left alone, children show the gap between them and adults in their reading habits and have elevated Dahl as their literary cult hero. In the under-16s list, he takes seven of the top ten books.

He commands the top three places, before J.R.R. Tolkien's *The Hobbit* at No 4 and *Winnie-the-Pooh* at No 5. He then commands places six to nine, with the No 10 slot held by Jacqueline Wilson.

Ms Wilson-Fletcher said that it was noticeable that Disney titles did not feature in the top 20 and showed that children recognised film tie-ins as the product of promotional activity.

Books that failed to reach the overall top 100 include *The Jolly Postman*, *The Jungle Book* and Dr Seuss's *The Cat in the Hat*. *Paddington Bear* fails to make the list and there is no sign of Spike Milligan, Raymond Briggs or Beatrix Potter.

Griff Rhys Jones, who was to have announced the results yesterday on the programme, which was cancelled because of the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, said: "I predict that Roald Dahl will take over the world eventually." Daisy Goodwin, editor of *Bookworm*, said: "I think it is

great that Roald Dahl, whose books have been banned in some American states because of political correctness, have got a vote of confidence from British children. It just shows that the more politically incorrect and cruel a book is, the more children like it. The way to get

children reading is not to lecture them but to entertain them."

Enid Blyton, who has been attacked by contemporary critics as being out of touch and even racist, creeps into the top 100 at No 26 with *The Faraway Tree*. Her next entry is at No 33, with *The Famous Five*.

Robert Louis Stevenson's classic *Treasure Island* makes it to No 40, one place ahead of Beatrix Potter with *Peter Rabbit*. Rudyard Kipling, once regarded as an essential author for young children, could manage only 101st place with *The Just So Stories*.

The question in the minds

of children's book publishers, on looking down the lists of favourites, has to be: have we been getting it all wrong? Recent publishing trends have promoted gritty realism and horror.

His books delight children

who want to see the laws of

the physical universe turned

topsy-turvy, yet not those of

the moral universe — so that

baddies (and nasty children,

too) get their desserts in

the most outrageous and surreal ways.

Matilda was published in

1988, two years before Dahl's death at the age of 74. *Vindictive* and *mischievous* though she may be, there could hardly be a better heroine for today's children. She is super-intelligent and, above all, a voracious reader of challenging literature. She is driven to acts of mischief by her frustration at being saddled with semi-literate, couch-potato parents.

The lists show that children

who really enjoy reading

— those most likely to have

taken part in the survey —

respond as readily as they

ever did to good writing,

imaginative flair and integrity. The elegant prose of the

New Yorker essayist

E.B. White makes *Charlotte's Web* resonate more

than anything by Enid

Blyton, author of the world's

most boring dialogues, who

bludgeons her way into the

top 100 only, I suspect, by

sheer force of having written

more than 700 titles, all as

comforting as *Instant Whip*.

Above all, the desire to be

whisked into a magical uni-

verse, where children — or

their substitutes such as

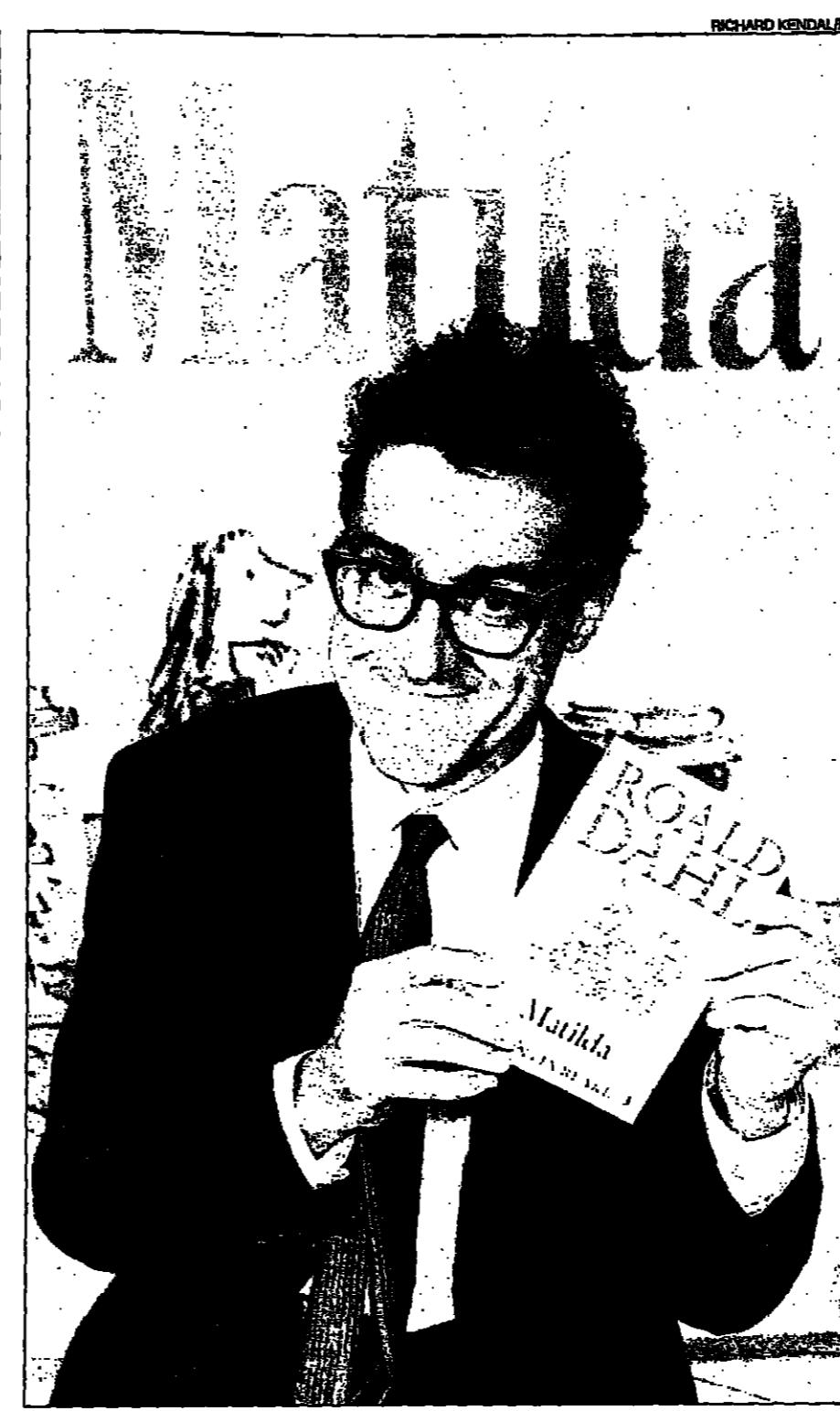
animals and "different"

people like Hobbits — have

to take the moral conse-

quences of their actions, is

constant.



Griff Rhys Jones with the favourite of under-16s: "Dahl will take over the world"

Imagination has last word over realism

Sarah Johnson, children's books reviewer for *The Times*, finds a moral in the poll for publishers who prefer angst to magic

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Disruptive boy comes of age as film director

FROM DALYA ALBERG, ARTS CORRESPONDENT, AT THE VENICE FILM FESTIVAL

A MAN who left school without qualifications has directed a film starring Bob Hoskins which is the talk of the Venice Film Festival.

Shane Meadows, 24, seemed to have few prospects when he began making short films two years ago using equipment at a centre for unemployed people. Initially unemployers mocked him, assuming he was making "Jeremy Beadle-style home videos". Eventually, they wanted to play a part in them. So did Hoskins, who was impressed by the script and one of Mr Meadows's earlier short films.

Mr Meadows, whose mother works in a chip shop and whose father is a long-distance lorry driver, said yesterday: "He left a message on my machine that said, 'I've read the script, seen the film, when do we start?'" Hoskins, one of Britain's highest-paid actors, "took less than I got paid" for the five-week shoot, the director said.

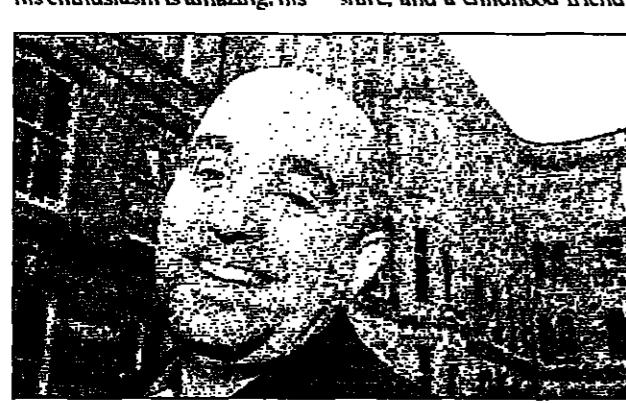
Hoskins, star of movies such as *The Long Good Friday* and *Mona Lisa*, said: "Working with Shane Meadows was a refreshing experience. He knows exactly what he wants, he's not indulgent, his enthusiasm is amazing, his

broadcasters are preparing to do battle with Westminster City Council over plans to charge them for filming on London's streets. The draft private Bill would prevent television crews filming without permission at locations such as College Green, opposite the Houses of Parliament, or outside the Old Bailey. They would have to pay a fee determined by local councils. News-gathering teams would be exempt if the film was to be broadcast within two days. The Association of London Government said that the Bill was aimed at feature film-makers who tended to cordon off entire roads.

ideas are terrific and he's open to anyone."

"It's remarkable the way Shane has succeeded in blending the poignancy and tragedy of the film with the humour, which is sometimes totally off-the-wall."

The film, *TwentyFourSeven*, was co-written by Mr Meadows, from Uttoxeter, Staffordshire, and a childhood friend.



Shane Meadows' first feature stars Bob Hoskins

Elgar's descendants horrified by plan to create 'theme park'

BY SIMON DE BRUXELLES

PLANS to transform the birthplace of Sir Edward Elgar from a shrine to one of England's greatest composers into an international visitors' centre have horrified his descendants.

The tiny cottage at Lower Broadheath near Malvern, Hereford and Worcester, where Elgar was born in 1857, is already overshadowed by the red-brick annexe erected three years ago despite opposition from local residents.

Now the Elgar Foundation, which raised the money for the building but could not afford to

complete it, believes that an even grander scheme will attract lottery money. However, critics claim that the proposals would dwarf the two-up two-down cottage, which is visited by 8,000 people a year, and destroy any vestiges of rural harmony at the site.

The composer of the *Enigma Variations* and *The Dream of Gerontius* would probably have found little inspiration in the visitors' centre, which has been compared to a "gross, anonymous out-of-town supermarket".

His great-nephew Paul Grafton claims that the family has not been consulted on the foundation's

plans. He said: "If the community is content to permit the final despoliation of this precious memorial to the country's greatest composer of classical music, there is little that Elgar's family can do to help."

The local planning authority claims to be powerless to prevent this further desecration, just as Worcester council was supposedly powerless to prevent the demolition of Sir Edward's gracious home at Mari Bank.

The Elgar Foundation's proposals include the demolition of Rose Cottage, a neighbouring property, a large extension and a covered

walkway linking the visitors' centre to the "birthplace". The design of the present centre was based on a suggestion by the Prince of Wales, patron of the Elgar Foundation, that the building should reflect a typical Worcestershire farmyard.

Alwyn Davies, of the foundation, said: "The building is there and needs to be used. This is one way to get it into use, link it with the birthplace and have it as a memorial centre with a wide appeal to students of music."

Tin Llewellyn, co-chairman of the Elgar Birthplace Appeal, said wide consultation after a first unsuccessful lottery bid had led to

the new scheme. "We are now drawing up a new bid which we hope to submit in the autumn for funds towards the conservation and presentation of the Elgar collections, the completion of the present building and the proposed extension."

Peter Rose, a retired businessman, who lives next door to Rose Cottage, is horrified by the extension. He said: "The so-called visitors' centre that is there now is not going to win any design awards. It is a red-brick building which resembles an anonymous out-of-town supermarket. These plans propose to extend that already

over-large building by another 50 per cent."

"This is a magical place for music lovers, with its own special atmosphere and charm. The danger is that all this will be swamped by a kind of Elgar theme park."

Elgar lived in some 25 homes but said before his death in 1934 that if anywhere was to be a memorial to him it should be his birthplace. His daughter, Carice Elgar-Blake, gathered his belongings and manuscripts after his death and installed them in the cottage at Lower Broadheath. The collection includes Elgar's desk at which he wrote the *Enigma Variations*.



Elgar: wanted birthplace to become his memorial

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Beaver given chance of new life in Britain

BY A STAFF REPORTER

BEAVERS may be reintroduced to Scotland after an absence of at least 400 years if the public give their blessing.

A two-year study for Scottish Natural Heritage has concluded that it would be possible to make the beaver the first native UK mammal to be reintroduced to the wild. But the public is to be consulted first to make sure that the creature is wanted.

"If Scotland wants the beaver back it will be up to the Scottish people. It would be hard to go ahead with the reintroduction without sufficient public support," a spokesman said.

He said that all interested bodies would be canvassed and the public asked to write in with their views. "It will not be a referendum, but we hope it will be as wide a consultation as possible."

If the scheme is approved, up to 30 beavers will be released at a site yet to be chosen. English Nature and

the Countryside Council for Wales are also interested in reintroducing the animal.

Beavers are Europe's largest rodent, weighing nearly 45lb. They were once plentiful in Britain but are believed to have become extinct in about 1550 after being hunted for their fur, meat and a secretion of the castor glands which was valued for its medicinal properties.

Reintroductions by Victorians failed, although a colony released on the Isle of Bute in 1875 grew to 27. The animals felled 187 trees in diameter in five years before dying out in about 1890.

Andrew Kitchener, curator of mammals and birds at the Royal Museum of Scotland, said the reintroduction could face opposition because of fears about damage to trees, rivers and fish stocks. But damage had been minimal where they had been reintroduced in Europe.



The beaver. Europe's largest rodent, weighs nearly 45lb

Alcoholics who dry out risk brain damage

BY NIGEL HAWKES, SCIENCE EDITOR

ALCOHOLICS who are "dry out" produce high levels of chemicals that can kill brain cells, a study of men in Salvation Army hostels has shown.

The chemicals, called kyurenes, peak on the fourth day of detoxification. The peak coincides with a loss of memory, suggesting that it is the production of excessive amounts of kyurenes that causes characteristic memory loss among long-term alcoholics.

Adrian Bonner, who produced the research with his colleague Colin Martin of the Addictive Behaviour Centre at Roehampton Institute, London, said: "The more often a person has dried out and then relapsed, the more likely is it that he has brain damage. We believe that a lot of this damage might be avoided if kyurene production could be controlled by diet or by drugs during drying out."

The two researchers collaborated with the Salvation Army in the research, which involved taking blood and urine samples and conducting tests of brain function in 150 alcoholics in the Army's hostels. They measured the levels of kyurenes for several weeks and compared them with tests of brain function.

Kyurenes are related to the mood chemical serotonin, both of which are produced by the breakdown of tryptophan, an amino acid that is found in food.

Only a small proportion of the tryptophan goes to pro-

duce serotonin. The bulk is broken down in the liver to form kyurenes and a related chemical, quinolinic acid.

Dr Bonner suspects that in alcoholics, the biochemistry is altered so that more dietary tryptophan is diverted to the liver, producing excessive levels of kyurenes and low levels of serotonin. Without exception, the alcoholics they studied were clinically depressed, indicating low serotonin levels.

Kyurenes are known to be linked to seizures — often experienced by alcoholics drying out — while quinolinic acid alters the functioning of brain proteins important in memory.

The elevated levels found during drying out could kill brain cells in the hippocampus, so that repeated periods of intoxication followed by drying out would bring about brain degeneration. "The important thing is that we know the process can be controlled by diet," Dr Bonner said.

"By altering the carbohydrates and proteins in the diet, or by using drugs to target the enzymes in the liver that break down tryptophan, we might be able to reduce the brain damage. That could have enormous implications for the treatment and rehabilitation of alcoholics."

First results of the study were presented last month at a conference in Sweden. Now the researchers plan to extend the study internationally, again with the help of the Salvation Army.



A print of Karsh's portrait of Churchill heads into storage from the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television at Bradford

Moving images in scene change

Museum's exhibits go into storage to prepare for digital technology, writes Russell Jenkins

A STREAM of removal vans began ferrying the contents of the National Museum of Photography, Film and Television across Bradford last night as the most popular museum outside London closed for a 15-month £13.5 million refit.

During the next three weeks more than three million exhibits will be moved. The museum's prize jewel, the world's first video recorder will follow. The 30-strong staff believe it is the greatest museum evacuation since the Second World War, when many national collections were stored in Welsh slate mines.

A brass band played yesterday as the last visitors enjoyed the displays of early televisions, Victorian photographic equipment and cameras from the days of the Hollywood pioneers in their original setting.

Hundreds of boxes and crates containing the Bakelite, metal, glass and plastic products designed to capture the moving image are waiting, protected in bubble wrap, to be moved to their temporary home, where indexing alone presents a mammoth task for curators. The

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WORLD IN BRIEF

Suspect in \$22m robbery arrested after five months

New York: A security van driver who pulled off the largest cash robbery in American history, escaping with \$22 million (£13.6 million) in unmarked notes, has been captured five months after he committed "the perfect crime" (Tunku Varadarajan writes). Philip Johnson, who was described by police as a "nondescript, geeky type", was arrested on Saturday as he tried to cross by bus from Texas into Mexico. The cash has not been recovered.

His arrest brings to an end a hunt that began on March 29 when Johnson, 33, disappeared with the contents of the Loomis Fargo security van which he drove in Jacksonville, Florida. He kidnapped two co-workers at the end of a Saturday night shift, handcuffing them in his trailer home.

He removed company personal files and surveillance video tapes and vanished. Police said travel brochures for Brazil which he left at home were decoys: he had remained in America. The capture was a "fluke". Despite a \$500,000 reward, there had been no sightings.

Hard labour for Israeli spy

Jerusalem: An Egyptian security court sentenced an Israeli Arab to 15 years' hard labour for spying for Israel (Ross Dunn writes). The verdict was called an outrage by the Israeli Government, which said that Azam Azam, 35, was innocent.

The mechanic, who worked at a textile factory, told the court that he did not know what the word espionage meant. He was said to have delivered women's underwear on which had been written, with invisible ink, information about Egyptian factories. He said: "I came to Egypt to work, not to spy. I have not heard of the word spying. I have never heard of invisible ink. What is that?" Life sentences for the same offences were given to Azam's Egyptian accomplice, Emad Abdel Hamid Ismail, and two Israeli Arab women, Zahra Youssef Greiss and Mona Ahmed Shawhna.

Swedish King in TV row

Stockholm: King Carl XVI Gustaf, 62, was involved in an altercation with a television camera crew which tracked him down on a private grouse-hunting expedition, the *Expressen* and the *Svenska Dagbladet* newspapers said. The Swedish monarch yelled at the crew and pushed a cameraman and a soundman in the incident, last Thursday, in the north of the country. A palace statement said the King did not wish to comment. (AP)

Clinton tackles vacancies

Washington: A third of the 470 top jobs in President Clinton's Administration remain unfilled seven months into his second term (Brenda Maddox writes). Tackling the vacancies, which have contributed to the paralysis gripping Washington this year, will be the President's first priority on his return this week from holiday.

He is braced for a showdown with the Senate Foreign Affairs Committee when it reassembles on Wednesday over the nomination of William Weld, the former Republican Governor of Massachusetts, as Ambassador to Mexico — being opposed because of Mr Weld's support for the medicinal use of marijuana. The Administration is cluttered with "holdovers" — people who have resigned but been forced to stay at their desks.

American boost for Plavsic

Sarajevo: Robert Gelbard, the US special envoy, appeared in public with President Plavsic, right, the Bosnian Serb leader, in Banja Luka at the weekend — signalling where Washington's preferences lie in Republika Srpska's power struggle (Tom Walker writes). Mrs Plavsic admitted she was using the international community and Nato to overcome the corruption and isolation that Radovan Karadzic has wrought on the Serb territory.

Algerian rebels seek peace

Paris: The leader of banned Islamic Salvation Front in Algeria, Abassi Madani, has called for a halt to the bloodshed as a first step towards dialogue with the authorities. He was responding to an appeal by Kofi Annan, the UN Secretary-General, for reconciliation after up to 300 people were killed last week in the worst in a series of massacres of civilians in recent weeks. The authorities blamed the Muslim fundamentalists. Mr Madani, recently released from prison after six years, said his move was motivated by "the deterioration of the situation in Algeria and massacres which targeted Algerian people". His appeal would be "a preliminary step for a serious dialogue to find a happy end to the crisis". Yesterday the Pope condemned the massacres, saying: "My thoughts turn to the martyred Algeria." (Reuters)

Nigeria book launch halted

Lagos: The Nigerian junta has stopped the launch of a book on Chief Moshood Abiola, left, to jailed opposition leader believed to have been the winner of the aborted 1993 elections, reports said. Dignitaries and rights activists who arrived on Saturday at the Nigerian Union of Journalists' press centre for the launch of *Abiola, Democracy and Rule of Law* by Richard Akinola, were turned back by armed police, reports said. (AFP)

Alert after biker gunfight

Brisbane: Police warned residents to keep off the streets after a gunfight between motorcycle gangs in the coastal city of Mackay, Queensland. Six people, thought to be gang members, were shot in the fight between the Odin's Warriors and the Outlaws gangs, police said. Almost 13 years ago to the day, seven people were killed in a gun battle between the Comancheros and the Bandidos in a Sydney car park. (AP)

Naples gangsters kill shrine pilgrim

FROM RICHARD OWEN
IN ROME

THE Italian authorities yesterday strengthened their crackdown on the Camorra, the Naples mafia, after an attack by Neapolitan gangsters on a coachload of Roman Catholic pilgrims in which a man in his thirties was shot dead in front of his family.

The attack follows a spate of increasingly brazen gangland robberies and murders, many drugs-related, by the Camorra in southern Italy, which have led to troops being deployed on the

streets of Naples. Authorities have also made a growing use of informers to track down and imprison Camorra bosses.

The coach had taken 55 pilgrims from Frosinone, south of Rome, to the tomb at San Giovanni Rotondo, near Foggia, of Padre Pio, a charismatic friar who died in 1968. The shrine is visited by five million people a year and the Pope, who hopes to beatify Padre Pio — the first step to sainthood — has been there twice.

After praying at the tomb, the group stopped at a woodland sanctuary to the Madonna a few miles away. Two gangsters in their twenties "with strong

Neapolitan accents" boarded the coach as it was about to leave, and robbed passengers at gunpoint.

Alfio Mastropaoletta, 34, a market stallholder, remonstrated with one gunman, asking: "Why should we give you our money?" One of the thieves said: "Shoot him." A gang member shot Signor Mastropaoletta in the throat with a pistol at close range in front of his wife and children, aged two and four.

The gunmen continued taking cash and jewellery from passengers. Witnesses said the men were "detached" throughout and may have been on drugs.

Hope for new volcano isle town

FROM TOM RHODES
IN PLYMOUTH, MONTSEERRAT

PLANS for a new capital in the volcano-ravaged Caribbean island of Montserrat will be presented to George Foulkes, the International Development Minister, during his visit to the British dependent territory today.

The project by Landbase International, a development company based in London, aims to create a small capital in the north of the island to replace Plymouth, the former centre overrun by volcanic flows from the Soufrière Hills.

The new capital, to be built on 280 acres of land at Carr's Bay and Little Bay, would include government and office buildings, banking and other commercial enterprises, a hospital, schools, churches and a Test-standard cricket oval designed to be the best in the West Indies.

Mr Pearce, a company director, was arriving in the Caribbean last night at the invitation of David Brandt, Montserrat's Chief Minister, to present the plans to Mr Foulkes. Central to the scheme will be a Whitehall commitment to underwrite costs for government buildings and a similar undertaking by business to guarantee the private sector development.

Mr Brandt has been the strongest proponent of rebuilding the island's infrastructure, two-thirds of which have been claimed by the volcano since it erupted for the first time in almost four centuries two years ago.

In that time 6,000 islanders have fled Montserrat for other parts of the Caribbean and Britain. As a new cycle of violent eruptions began again this weekend, authorities feared more people would soon desert its shores, making the island's authorities even keener to create incentives to remain.

A wharf of picturesque fishermen's cottages and shops would be built around a new port to include docking space for cruise ships from Antigua as well as a marina to attract Caribbean yachtsmen.

Several hotels and a residential field centre for students studying the aftermath of the eruptions is also included in the preliminary drawings. "It has got to be extremely attractive," said Mr Pearce. "The Caribbean economy is geared to tourism and that is the area we must



Families remaining on Montserrat have been forced by the chaos of the volcanic eruptions to flee their homes for emergency shelters. A London-based development company believes that the island can be rehabilitated and have a new future as a tourist destination.

Capital caught in vision of hell

By TOM RHODES

THE eerie silence was punctuated by the sudden deep rumbling of the volcano, belching plumes of gas and smoke above Plymouth, the capital of Montserrat that is now a vision of hell.

It was as if the angry mountain wanted to demonstrate its awesome power to the group of visitors who tramped through the dense ash and burnt-out buildings of the once picturesque Caribbean town.

Only later did scientists at the Montserrat Volcano Observatory explain that the pyroclastic flows — fortunately rolling down a separate valley to the north — were the worst in almost a month. The worst in almost a month. The worst in almost a month.

It is a ghost town deserted by all but a few unfortunate dogs, cats, cows and donkeys who will soon die. Even the flies seem to have left.

Colonial buildings have been burnt to the ground, the high temperatures even rupturing steel girders, and neighbouring patches of seemingly innocent mud are so hot they can cause third-degree burns within seconds.

Telegraph poles lie in the streets, their wires twisting through the detritus of shops, businesses and homes. Cash registers, stereo systems and air conditioners are embrased by tables and chairs, sprinkled with glass shards and coated with the ubiquitous dust.

The port, which had first visited two years earlier, is no longer recognisable.

Two 19th-century cannon, astride which Elton John was once famously pictured, are no longer proud symbols of colonial life. The small golden shamrocks on their muzzles, testaments to the town's

Irish heritage, are dull and scuffed. The nearby red telephone box, a memento of British rule, is covered in dust, its instrument long gone, while an incongruous No Waiting sign pops its head from the neighbouring 12ft of dense mud.

But it is the white war memorial which perhaps provides the most poignant reminder of the devastation that the Soufrière Hills have brought to Montserrat.

It bears the names of 14 islanders killed in the two world wars, five fewer than the total number who perished in terrifying flows this June.

The memorial's two clocks are stopped at 12.21 and 3.42, moments of horror for the town poignantly recorded.

Philippines and Britain move to stop child abuse

FROM DAVID WATTS IN MANILA

BRITAIN and the Philippines have agreed new measures to tackle the menace of child abuse. They include legislation permitting the prosecution in Britain of paedophiles abroad and a co-operation agreement with the Philippines for the sharing of intelligence on paedophiles.

Crowds of young, abandoned children clustered around Robin Cook, the Foreign Secretary, at the weekend when he visited a Manila drop-in centre for those abandoned by their parents. Some as young as eight showed clearly in their faces the trauma that they had suffered at the hands of foreign sex tourists from Britain, Australia, Japan and other countries.

Two of the three foreigners convicted of child abuse in the Philippines have been Britons — Steven Mitchell for sexual activities with boys and Michael Clarke for organising sex tours. More are to face charges.

There are an estimated 60,000 child prostitutes in the Philippines and it is hoped that Britain's pioneering effort will help to alleviate the problem. Mr Cook warned British sex tourists: "Don't come. If you do you'll be identified and prosecuted."

The constantly shifting nature of the problem can be seen already: despite the crackdown in Ermita the red light district has merely shifted further across town, taking its tawdry trade with it.

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Money - what is it really for?

Almost all of us want it, but we're far too embarrassed to talk about it. In the first of two extracts from her new book, *The Real Meaning of Money*, Dorothy Rowe argues that before we can appreciate the true value of money and what it can buy, we must first learn to understand ourselves

Money is a taboo subject. Ask about sex, no problem. Ask about money and you are entering forbidden territory. Talking openly about it is often seen as embarrassing, even a bad taste.

One of the questions I put to a wide range of people while researching my book was "Why are we so secretive about money?" Not one person queried my assumption that we were secretive. Everyone knew it was a matter of shame, humiliation and envy. Lord Howie of Toon made the connection between money and sin: "Don't forget that Christ drove the moneylenders out of the temple. There is the notion that money is rather sinful. Certainly it is associated with greed. People can easily become avaricious and want to accumulate money and hold on to it, not give it to people who deserve it. This seems very deep-seated in the human psyche. Obviously, greed and avarice are not desirable characteristics."

When I began talking to people about the meaning they gave to money, I asked them to rate on a scale of one to seven where they would place it in their lives. Everyone said somewhere in the middle; relationships and health were far more important. I suspected that I was not always being told the complete truth, so I stopped asking this question. The connection between the amount of money and possessions we deserved and what we actually did with regard to them was not that simple.

Everyone wants to enjoy things whose value is non-negotiable - good relationships with others, or the enjoyment of the beauty and wonder of the world - but too often our view of money constrains us. There is an adage that goes "A man's soul is slightly smaller than his mortgage", and such a soul produces a certain meanness. Meanness, in turn, goes hand in hand with greed. These can be thought about in terms of hunger and entitlement.

The hunger for money and possessions, which we can call greed, stems from a feeling of emptiness that threatens the integrity of the sense of existence. Acquiring more and more money and possessions can be an attempt to fill this void. Meanness - the refusal to part with money and possessions - can stem from a reluctance to give up anything deemed an essential buttress to the sense of existence.

However, much of the demand for money and possessions comes not so much from hunger as a sense of entitlement, a belief that there is a preordained pattern to the world that ensures that certain things or rewards will be forthcoming to certain people. If you are one of those people, you expect your reward. When it is not forthcoming, you feel aggrieved, and complain about injustice. Just how this group of people is defined, and what the expected rewards are, depend on who is doing the defining. Usually those certain people are self-defined.

We live in a society in which religion, of whatever sort, teaches that we live in a just world, one in which goodness is rewarded

and badness punished. If you believe this, and if you believe that you have striven to be virtuous - however you define that term - then, when the rewards to which you believe you are entitled are not forthcoming, you cannot help but feel aggrieved. No wonder that the lads on the trading floor complain about their bonuses, or that the leaders of industry - all, in their own view, hard-working and virtuous - feel they deserve their huge salaries and perks.

Lewis H. Lapham, Editor of *Harper's Magazine*, said: "Nobody ever has enough. It is characteristic of the rich, whether the rich man or the rich nation, to think that they never have enough of anything. Not enough love, time, houses, tennis balls, orgasms, dinner invitations, designer clothes, nuclear weapons. Even if we achieve what the world is pleased to acknowledge as success, we discover that the seizing of it fails to satisfy the hunger of our spiritual expectation, which is why we so often feel oppressed by ... vague melancholy."

The source of this vague melancholy lies in our childhood. We entered the world full of unselfconscious self-confidence, curiosity, enthusiasm and interest and delight in everything we encountered. We were untroubled by the belief that we needed to be good. Our joy in being alive was soon taken from us. The adults around us deemed that we must fit in schedules of eating, sleeping, urinating and defecating which they devised, not us. These schedules are beyond our understanding, yet if we fail to conform to them, unpleasant things can happen. We become confused, uncertain, and an emptiness, a darkness opens inside us. At the same time we are being offered things that we take to be compensation for the loss of the certitude and happiness we once enjoyed. "Be good," say our parents, "and you'll be rewarded!"

Money and possessions fail to assuage the pain of the loss of our initial certitude and happiness because we have invested them with a meaning they cannot bear. Every meaning is itself an expectation. If we give money the meaning that it creates happiness, we expect that it will do so. If the meaning that we create arises more from our fantasies than from our determination to create a significance that resembles as closely as possible reality, we create for ourselves expectations that can never be fulfilled.

I have spent many hours listening to individuals who live in daily anguish, waiting for their mother to put aside her usual way of behaving and reveal herself as the all-perfect, all-loving mother the person longs for. The reality is that the mother is a meagre person, undivided by the generosity and compassion that are necessary elements of an unconditional love. She can no more produce unconditional love than she can win the Nobel Prize for Physics or beat the market to make a fortune.

The expectation that money will fill the hole that childhood experience created in you



A fistful of dollars: but it is characteristic of the rich, whether the rich man or the rich nation, to think that they never have enough of anything

or that possessions will shore up your shaky sense of existence is wildly wrong. It is based as much on a lack of understanding of yourself as it is an overestimate of the powers of money and possessions. If we do not understand ourselves and if we do not try to set aside our fantasies in order to see life as it is, we cannot help but suffer.

Only when we understand ourselves can we appreciate and begin to create what

TOMORROW
If it's wrong to steal a million, is it wrong to steal a stapler? Dorothy Rowe on money and morality

Dorothy Rowe, 1997. *The Real Meaning of Money* is published by HarperCollins on September 12.

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11.4%	£242.55	£485.10	£727.65	£1,215.10
12.4%	£194.07	£388.15	£582.20	£970.70

APR BASE 12.4% VARIABLE. TYPICAL QUOTATIONS FOR SECURED PERSONAL LOANS. £100 BORROWED FOR 12 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 24 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 36 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 48 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 60 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 72 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 84 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 96 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 108 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 120 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 144 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 168 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 192 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 216 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 240 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 264 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 288 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 312 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 336 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 360 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 384 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 408 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 432 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 456 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 480 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 504 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 528 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 552 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 576 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 600 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 624 MONTHS. £100 BORROWED FOR 648 MONTHS. 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Connex aims to sidestep compensation

By FRASER NELSON

CONNEX RAIL, the French-owned train operator which this summer cancelled some 6,000 services on one of London's main commuter lines, is trying to escape compensating passengers up to £10 million for the fiasco by blaming the disruption on trade unions.

The company, which cancelled hundreds of trains in June after drivers refused to work overtime, wants the disruption erased from its Citizen's Charter scorecard on the grounds that it has no control over industrial action.

Opraf, the rail franchising office, is understood to be viewing the matter as a test case that will determine privatised rail operators' liability for their own industrial relations.

Connex South Central, the franchise connecting London with Brighton, Hastings and Ashford, has agreed to Opraf-imposed penalties that total almost £1 million — equivalent to less than five days' subsidy.

The company is determined to avoid making any payments under the Citizen's Charter, which has the potential to trigger £10 million in compensation to season ticket holders.

The Charter system generates discounts if performance levels fall below a set standard on an annual basis. On Connex South Central, discounts are

due if fewer than 98 per cent of the scheduled trains run.

Connex said the industrial action struck 30 per cent of trains from its timetable. If this figure was entered for the 28-day period under dispute, the annual average would fall below the crucial 98 per cent threshold. This would trigger discounts for hundreds of season ticket holders.

Connex is arguing that

Opraf must evaluate its performance against the emergency timetable that it drew up while the disruption was running. This would effectively delete the disruptions from the Citizen's Charter record books and avoid payments to passengers.

A spokesman for Opraf said that John O'Brien, franchising director, was treating the case as a matter of urgency. He said: "We have been in talks with Connex for some time now and we see no reason to treat them any differently than we would have treated British Rail. We intend to take a hard line."

However, Opraf has already agreed not to rank the disruptions as a "call in", the franchising director's equivalent of a yellow card. It actually paid Connex a bonus of £132,000 for the period under dispute, in addition to the £5.74 million monthly sub-

sidy. It imposed a penalty of £41,500 for running too few carriages on the trains that it did run.

A spokesman for Aslef, the transport workers' union that called for the industrial action, said: "We have already told the franchising director that Connex brought this on their own heads because they would not properly negotiate with us in the first place. They refused to talk to us for three months before we complained to the franchising director."

Aslef called the industrial action over driver demands for a 37-hour working week that would consolidate the complex working practices that had existed under British Rail. It did not call a strike, but encouraged its members not to work hours officially classified as overtime or rest days.

The Connex affair dwarfs

Stagecoach's high-profile

South West Trains fiasco earlier this year. This involved

2,000 train cancellations over

two months, while Connex

figures suggest that it called

off more than 6,000 trains in

the space of 12 days.

The company, which operates under the slogan

"Connex: The way to run a railway", confirmed that it

was still in negotiations with Opraf but declined to comment further.

THE RECENT STRENGTH OF

sterling is not likely to be sustained in the long run, Eddie George, Governor of the Bank of England, said yesterday.

"We've got an exchange rate that is clearly stronger than we think could be sustained in the longer term," Mr George told economists at a conference in Wyoming sponsored by the Federal Reserve Bank of Kansas City.

He said that sterling's strength in foreign-exchange markets was due to factors "beyond our control".

"I think you cannot find the perfect solution to that, so you actually have to hold on until that situation resolves itself," Mr George said. "But I think in doing that you have to focus on the main objective, which is maintaining long-term price stability and the sustainability and growth of the economy."



Ronnie Baird, right, with Michael Foot to whom he will report at the Bank of England

Strong pound not for ever, says George

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The storm clouds are gathering over Europe. The Bundesbank is under pressure to increase German interest rates. It has a chance to raise its market intervention rates tomorrow and official rates at its council meeting on Thursday. This week it will probably hold back, but not for long.

On the face of it, it seems difficult to believe the Bundesbank might be thinking of raising rates at all. Large parts of the European economy are downright weak. But as the Bundesbank has demonstrated on numerous occasions, although it is the de facto central bank for Europe, it acts in the interests of Germany.

Yet even the German case for higher interest rates is not straightforward. Consumers are still nervous and German companies never mind foreign ones, are leery of investing in the country, given its ridiculously high labour costs. So domestic demand will not grow much this year. Most alarmingly, unemployment, currently stuck at

Strong mark will give euro a fighting chance



ROGER BOOTLE

4.4 million, a postwar high, shows no sign of coming down. But German inflation is starting to look worrying.

Even so, you might argue, why does the Bundesbank not conduct the sort of experiment that the Fed appears to have been doing, that is to say, trying out whether the economy can now operate at higher rates of capacity and faster growth without generating inflation — what you might call giving the death of inflation thesis the benefit of the doubt?

The answer is partly that the Bundesbank is operating with a lower implicit inflation target than the Fed and is more single-mindedly pursuing an inflation objective. Moreover, the Bundesbank has to contend with the effects of a weak currency, while the Fed has benefited from the effects of a strong currency.

But more importantly, there is more reason to believe that the US

German economy is likely to grow this year by well over 2 per cent. Even so, you might argue, why does the Bundesbank not conduct the sort of experiment that the Fed appears to have been doing, that is to say, trying out whether the economy can now operate at higher rates of capacity and faster growth without generating inflation — what you might call giving the death of inflation thesis the benefit of the doubt?

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But more importantly, there is more reason to believe that the US

can experience a new era in economic performance. It has gone further than any other country in adapting to the new world of information technology and global networks, helped by massive investment spending, and its labour market is intensely competitive. By contrast, although adjustment is well under way in Germany, it is

still far back in the process. There is also a European reason for higher German rates. The Bundesbank is not Eurosceptic in the way of the British striped blazer and staring eyes brigade. It is not hooked on monetary sovereignty. But it is clear that if the mark is to be given up, then it must not be for a mess of potage. Its duty is to do all it can to ensure that the euro will be a worthy replacement for the mark.

In hope, if not the French Government's, was that the euro would be a sort of mark with large relief, allowing sterling to fall against the mark and provided the link with the franc held, against the wider mark bloc as well. If the franc link broke, however, then it would be a very different story.

Yet higher German rates would surely oblige France to follow. If she did not then the markets might

well attack the franc. But suppose the markets saw German rates continuing to rise, which would be all the more likely if American rates also go up. Then, even if France followed the first German move, this would still leave the franc exposed to speculation as the markets reasoned that even higher rates were unsustainable for France. It would be like the position facing the British authorities as the ERM crisis reached its height in 1992 — damned if they did raise rates, and damned if they didn't.

For British exporters struggling with the strong pound, higher German rates could provide some relief, allowing sterling to fall against the mark and provided the link with the franc held, against the wider mark bloc as well. If the franc link broke, however, then it would be a very different story.

Autumn is almost upon us. It is the season of mellow fruitfulness — especially for foreign exchange traders.

Doubters moved Green to take digital TV risk



Award-winning media writer Raymond Snoddy joins *The Times* today with an exclusive interview.



Michael Green says that one day everybody will be watching TV via digital signals

Michael Green, the chairman of Carlton Communications, one of the UK's largest media groups, remembers when he realised just how important digital terrestrial television (DTT) was going to be for the future of British broadcasting. It was at a dinner hosted by Virginia Bottomley, then Heritage Secretary, at Hampton Court Palace two years ago. What impressed the 49-year-old Carlton chairman was that virtually all the great and good of the British broadcasting industry there were sceptical about the business potential of DTT, which allows new digital television channels to be broadcast from ordinary transmitters and received on standard roof-top aerials.

Green, the largest player in ITV through Carlton Television in London and Central Independent Television in the Midlands, had already been looking carefully at DTT.

"But what led me to feel so strongly was that there were so many doubting Thomases. There were so many people who were negative about it and a couple sitting on the fence," said Green who, over his 30-year business career, has turned a £2,000 overdraft into the £3 billion Carlton Communications, whose interests include Technicolor in the US. During the discussion Green spotted that both the Government and the BBC were enthusiastic about DTT, which is now expected to offer about 40 new UK television channels from next autumn.

"As a businessman I thought that when you have the Government, the Secretary of State [Mrs Bottomley] and the national broadcaster, the cornerstone of British television in the BBC, positive about a product it has a good chance of success and we had to embrace it," Green said in a rare newspaper interview.

So while many UK broadcasters remained sceptical about how DTT would fare with 200 channels of digital satellite and digital cable expected to be launched at the same time, Green pressed on and the company he founded, British Digital Broadcasting (BDB), won the main commercial DTT franchise.

BDB is now a Carlton-Granada equal partnership. The Independent Television Commission (ITC) ruled that British Sky Broadcasting, the satellite television venture in which *The Times*, has a 40 per cent stake, could not be a one-third equity partner, although it should remain a programme supplier.

"DTT is definitely going to happen. This is not a new venture that may or may not exist. Everybody in this country at some future point will be watching television via digital signals. This is a fact. All we are debating is how quickly this is going to happen," said Green, whose voice rises at least an octave when DTT is mentioned.

One of the reasons why Green is so confident that DTT will be a success is his belief that Chris Smith, the Culture, Media and Sports Secretary, is as much an enthusiast as Mrs Bottomley and will take action to ensure that it works. "The Government is going to turn off the analogue signal. They are going to announce at some point when they are going to turn off the analogue signal. Chris Smith has asked how he can help us on digital terrestrial," said Green.

The last Government made it clear it wanted all broadcasters to move to digital and vacate the analogue frequencies to make way for more lucrative mobile communications. It stopped short of setting a date because of the political sensitivity of telling the entire population they must

eventually get new television sets or digital "black boxes" if they want to watch television. Instead, the policy was to review the situation in five years, or when 50 per cent of the country has digital receivers, whichever comes first.

The Carlton chairman believes the Culture Secretary is now seriously considering setting a date for the move, just as the Federal Communications Commission has already done in the US.

Green believes that digital satellite will be a profitable business — he is less certain whether cable television will make it — but that DTT will be the main distribution route, bringing multichannel television to the majority of the population. They will begin by watching free-to-air digital channels, such as 24-hour television news from the BBC and ITV2, and gradually move to subscription channels such as Sky Sports and Sky Movies, which will be part of the BDB package.

"Over half the country will be watching DTT and that is over ten million homes. The question is when. I am not

going further than that, but it doesn't make a difference whether it is year two or year five, because the size of the business you are talking about is so significant," said Green, who is putting his reputation as a risk-averse businessman on the line to back what many will see as a problematic venture. "I believe that Carlton has [in DTT] a business that is capable of being as big as its entire business as we stand today," said Green, with total belief that he has found his next big idea to take Carlton forward over the next decade.

Already a Carlton-Granada task force has been assembled and the search is on for a chief executive with marketing and distribution experience. The project will be housed in Marco Polo House in Battersea, London, once the flamboyant headquarters of another new television venture that was optimistic about revolutionising the world of television — British Satellite Broadcasting and its Squarial.

Green is unconcerned at the symbolism and is more interested in what he sees as a terrific property deal.

"BSB is something that happened and the world moves on," said the Carlton chair-

Next on the agenda is the future of *News at Ten*, a sensitive issue for Green, who is a director and shareholder in the news organisation. The issue of moving *News at Ten* to an earlier slot so that films are not split in two is clearly under discussion in ITV.

"Provided ITV is united in what it wants, and provided ITV has a good reason to do it — I want to be convinced — I think the regulator [the ITC] will not be standing in our way," said Green, choosing his words carefully.

As for Carlton programmes, Green concedes he is never happy with critics, although he insists he pays more attention to viewers than critics. "The programme we took most flak on originally was *Hollywood Wives*. It has gone on to become one of the most successful genres of programmes," said Green.

He is also unrepentant about the great monarchy debate, which caused a furore, although with hindsight he concedes a smaller panel might have been a good idea.

"As a viewer I was entertained. I watched it throughout. I think it was groundbreaking," said Green. He thinks the 25 million calls generated will probably make the *Guinness Book of Records*.

"Despite the stick I absolutely don't regret it and I made that known publicly to the Carlton Television staff," said Green, who added that the challenge now is to find a new subject for similar television treatment. But mostly these days Michael Green wants to talk about digital terrestrial television. "It is a very exciting time. There is a real buzz about the place," he said.

There is also a new buzz about Michael Green, with a big new project for Carlton to tackle now that the go-go acquisition days are over and the emphasis is on building the business for the long term.

Iceland poised to return to the black with £25m

REPORTING THIS WEEK

ICELAND: The food retailer reported its first drop in profits for 26 years for its last full year, but there are signs of more confident trading with tomorrow's interim results.

Market forecasts for the group are for profits of about £25 million pre-tax in the weaker half of the year, compared with £29.8 million last year, and a net dividend unchanged at 1.8p. Earnings figures, rising about 8 per cent to 6.93p a share, will reflect recent capital restructuring.

HILLSDOWN: Debate persists on the conglomerate's mixture of housing, furniture and food interests, ranging from Typhoo Tea to Buxton Chickens but only minor disputes look imminent. On Thursday, Fairview, the homes business, should virtually double half-year profits to £38 million. A flat group performance is forecast, with pre-tax profit of £52 million (£51.3 million), earnings up a shade to 5.5p and an unchanged dividend.

BURMAH CASTROL: The strength of the pound is expected to hit the oil group, due to report today.

Adjusted net profit is forecast to show a slight improvement on last year's £67.7 million, with top of the range estimates of £72 million. A dividend of 1.5p, up 1p, is expected.

HOUSEBUILDERS: A series of generally upbeat reports from top housebuilders should start today with Persimmon. Interim figures are expected to show pre-tax profits climbing from £14.2 million to £21 million. Earnings per share are likely to have grown 42 per cent to 9.4p, with the payout up 5 per cent to 3.1p.

After an £8.7 million loss this time last year, George Wimpey, biggest in the industry, should report a half-year surplus of £10-£20 million tomorrow, with operating profits up from £2.7 million to £20 million. The loss per share of £1.6p should be reversed.

Completions should be similar to last year's, with Wimpey Homes up about 10 per cent, but McLean down. Crucially, both should have managed higher selling prices. A dividend of 3.15p, up 5 per cent, is hoped for.

WILSON (CONNALLY): is expected to show about £10 million pre-tax profits on turnover of £125 million, when it reports on Wednesday. The dividend should be up 7 per cent at 1.45p.

AMEC: the recovering construction group that also owns Fairdough Homes should report profits up a quarter to £15 million on Thursday, with the payout up a sixth at 1.75p.

LAIRD GROUP: Start-up costs of £4 million and a £6 million hit from the strong pound will dent half-year figures on Thursday.

Pre-tax profits should be little changed from last year's £33.4 million, with earnings also static at about 17p. The interim dividend could rise a tenth to 5.4p.

ECONOMICS: Today Standard & Poor's MMS International forecasts consumer credit growth slowing a little from £1.3 billion in June to £1.1 billion in July. Growth in M0, the measure of narrow money supply, is also expected to slow, from an annual 5.9 per cent to 5.4 per cent.

TODAY

INTERIM: Avonside, Burnd, Burmah Castrol, Core Group, DCS, Gowings, Kerry, Lilleshol, Perkins Foods, Persimmon, Charles Sidings, Tarmac & Fisons, Tarmac Plastics, Bell, Abbott, Haynes Publishing, Roxspur. **ECONOMIC STATISTICS:** August provisional M0; July final M4; July consumer credit; US markets shut.

TOMORROW

INTERIM: CMG, CRH, Dixon Motors, James Finlay, Iceland, IMI, Lambert Howarth, Parbame, Paramount Foods, Peels, PPL, Therapac, Stadium Grp, Trafalgar, Tropicana, George Wimpey, Zambia Consolidated Copper (ZCC), Finlays, Peter.

WEDNESDAY

INTERIM: Amey, James Beattie, Burford Holdings, Cairn Energy, Church & Co., Evans Halshaw, Hickson International, IFG, Jeffers, Mifrah IT, Pegasus, Penland, Redrow, Shire, Tarmac, Tropicana, Wedgewood, Wilson. **ECONOMIC STATISTICS:** US July construction orders; SMMT August car registrations.

FRIDAY

INTERIM: Hammerson, Henley, Ladbroke Estates, Ladbroke Woods & Son. **ECONOMIC STATISTICS:** July housing starts; Q2 construction output.

RESULTS AND STATISTICS

INTERIM: Black, Heritage Bathrooms, Macro 4. **ECONOMIC STATISTICS:** Halifax August house price survey; August official reserves.

THURSDAY

INTERIM: Abbott Grp, Amec, Castles, Churchill China, Conister Trust, Fisher's Int., Friendly Hotels, Hillsdown, LSEB, City Fund, IBC, Ladbroke Estates, Ladbroke Woods, Peacock Royal Doulton, Scholl, Sema, Silverline, Skysphere, Wembley, Swallowfield. **FINALS:** Brierley Investments, Pacific Horizon, JD Wetherspoon. **ECONOMIC STATISTICS:** July construction orders; SMMT August car registrations.

FRIDAY

INTERIM: Hammerson, Henley, Ladbroke Estates, Ladbroke Woods & Son. **ECONOMIC STATISTICS:** July housing starts; Q2 construction output.

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PARIBAS

Why are classical music and opera so uniquely favoured on Radio 3? Surely there ought to be comparable space and investment in literature, history, the arts and sciences and philosophy. The BBC has a great opportunity to enrich and intensify the best in our culture.

This is not a column which aims to bash Radio 3. As a true-born Brit I inherit, of course, the inalienable right to grumble about the BBC, and I have some grumbles about Radio 3 which still seems mired in old marmalade too often. But over the past month, when my normal listening time has been trebled, I have got the value of a licence fee from that one station alone. Nor is this to knock Radio 4, which is an exemplary talk channel, nor to say that something should go to make way for a new entry at the BBC. It is to suggest an add-on, a new radio channel, which would address history, the sciences, literature etc as exhaustively and intelligently as Radio 3 addresses great music.

When, for instance, was the last time you heard the entire canon of Shakespeare's works read aloud or performed on radio? Why could a chapter of Dickens not be read

night after night throughout one year, followed by Balzac, Waugh, Tolstoy, Bellow? Would it not be rewarding to feature a programme of lectures in history and the sciences, lectures which would feature the brightest of our university teachers?

This seems to be no less possible than the hours and hours of classical music on which we are currently fed. Had anyone, before the invention of the Third Programme, said that in quite a short time there would be 24 hours a day of classical music from the most arcane and antique to the most modish and contemporary, and that this would secure a place in the broadcasting spectrum, it would have been laughed off the agenda. Many indeed would have thought the suggestion an affront to the British people's cherished philistinism and traditional non-musicality. Yet lo! Thanks to the BBC we are now one of the most musically active, musically literate countries in the world.

Why can the same not be done for literature, the arts, history, the sciences and philosophy? The BBC spends considerable resources on news, on sport, on popular culture, on digital television, on world television, and good luck to it. Could not a comparatively very modest sum be found to take broadcasting culture where it has never gone before?

The Open University is a useful comparison. On Monday mornings I used to listen to the OU lecture between 6.30 and 7am (before the slot was filled — with classical music). More often than not I knew very little indeed about the course being discussed. More

often than not I stuck with it and got something out of it. How much more likely to stay if a programme schedule were to be built, not around an Open University syllabus, but around the syllabus of the Open Mind? Tony Blair's determination to make Britain the best-educated country in the world needs to be applauded and supported, and what better national institution to support that essential ambition and at the same time prove its own best worth than the BBC?

It is not difficult to see it working. Beethoven, Mozart, Stravinsky, Monteverdi, they are played again

and again, they are repeated, they are discussed. We go deep into the past to revive dead composers sometimes better left there, but still Radio 3 is a channel with a purpose. Why on earth can we not have a channel with the purpose of affording the highest opportunities in thought and language for anyone who cares to listen?

There could be daily lectures from around the country, lectures on our own history, on world history, on sciences. Most people who go to university — and more and more now do — know the pleasure of dipping into a lecture which has nothing to do with one's own course. There is an appetite for listening and learning in this country now, as anyone who goes to literary festivals or local history societies or, especially, public lectures about science will attest.

It need not be readings and lectures. There could be discussions, debates, link-ups with Europe and the East and the Americas. Nor need it be plod-

With Shakespeare, for instance, you could read an act every weekday for five days from one of his plays, discuss it before and after the reading, and then on Saturday or Sunday repeat the entire performance. Poets today are very skilful at public readings, used to holding the attention of their listeners, and novelists too are beginning to find that a "simple" reading can hold an audience. I am sure that the public appetite for history, once great, could be rapidly revived through such a channel, and the audiences and readers for many of today's scientists only confirm the point I am making.

Of course the radio audiences would be small to start with but quite soon, I would soon, they would challenge the audience sizes of Radio 3. Because underlying this is that many, many people love the sound of words and the language of intelligence every bit as much as they love the sound of music. This new channel could be the best of the BBC and its best possible celebration of the millennium — to do for history, the arts, the sciences, literature and philosophy what it has done so very effectively for classical music. Over to John Birt.

This week in THE TIMES



■ OPERA

ENO's new season opens with Rosalind Plowright singing *Tosca*
OPENS: Sat. Coliseum
REVIEW: Monday



■ THEATRE

Full of sound and fury: Alan Howard tackles *King Lear*
OPENS: Fri. Old Vic
REVIEW: Monday



We are not amused? Judi Dench is Queen Vic in *Mrs Brown*
RELEASED: Friday
REVIEW: Thursday



The Royal Concertgebouw under Riccardo Chailly performs at the Proms
CONCERTS: Tues and Wed
REVIEWS: Thurs and Fri

Dazzled by the future

EDINBURGH FESTIVAL: At last, says Richard Morrison, here is progressive music that makes sense

Sometimes, alas too rarely, a critic stumbles across a new work that is so ingeniously conceived, so mesmerising, so far ahead of the rest of the field, that the only immediate response is a dropped jaw, a dazed grin and a gulped croak of "bravo". I entered the Royal Lyceum with no great expectations of *Black on White*, a "music theatre piece for 18 players" written last year by the 45-year-old German composer Heiner Goebbels. Seventy-five thrilling minutes later I staggered out with renewed faith in the musical avant-garde. Once every decade or so, the progressives do actually manage to make a bit of significant progress. I guess that *Black on White* is for the Nineties.

On a stage packed with dozens of bare benches, the players are required to be both conventional musicians and unconventional actors in a series of enigmatic tableaux. Some are funny and quirky. There is a marvellous hard-driven rock opening, for instance, with half the instrumentalists playing the music and the other half playing mad games of badminton, skittles and dice.

Some are whimsical and poignant, such as the scene in

which a lonely piccolo player concocts a haunting lament while waiting for his kettle to boil. And others are downright menacing: there is a terrifying moment when an entire brass band advances on the audience, bench by bench, while repeatedly hammering out two baleful chords.

Described in this piecemeal fashion, *Black on White* probably sounds like some born-again Sixties frolic. But running through the work, unifying it and giving it richness and direction, is a thread of dark and deep elegy. *Black on White* was written as a memorial for the German theatre director and writer Heiner Müller, and a recording of Müller reading Edgar Allan Poe's morbid parable, *Shadow*, is a recurring feature.

Time and again in *Black on White* some striking musical or visual image of mechanistic brutality is conjured up, only for a single player — a wailing saxophone, say, or a bluesy trumpet — to rise above it with a fierce or tender assertiveness of individuality. The metaphor is left deliberately open-

Shadow play: Heiner Goebbels's stunning "music theatre piece for 18 players" mixes hard rock, big-band jazz, African chant — and dark, deep elegy

ended: it could be a rebel making a political stand against oppressive conformity; or the creative artist raging against the dying of the light; or the human spirit transcending some crushing misery or terror. But when, near the end, the entire ensemble sits in silence and watches a metal pendulum, suspended from the stage roof, eerily strum back and forth across the strings of a Japanese koto, the feeling of being drawn into some timeless ritual of mourning is overwhelming.

To evoke such intense emo-

tional states Goebbels draws on a huge range of musical styles: from jazz and Hungarian-style cimbalom music to African chant and appearances by a didgeridoo and an air-raid siren. His staging is no less eclectic, mixing classic Expressionist effects — shadows, silhouettes, bare bulbs — with stunning group scenes in which the musical ensemble moves with the precision of a well-drilled ballet company.

In less competent hands, such a collision of disparate elements would be a mess. But

this synthesis of music, mime, lighting, projection, speech and electronic sound is marshalled with dazzling assurance. And executed — by the magnificently versatile players of the Frankfurt-based Ensemble Modern — with the total conviction that comes from having lived with the composer through the creation of the work.

The trouble with presenting such a piece on the final two nights of the Edinburgh Festival is that it makes much of what has gone before sound desperately hackneyed. Espe-

cially other pieces of new music! For instance, earlier on Friday the BBC Scottish Symphony Orchestra, conducted by Martyn Brabbins and abetted by the virtuosic flautist Pierre-Yves Artaud, gave the world premiere of *Blitzschlag* by the Scottish composer James Dillon — which at 30 minutes' length, must be the most protracted "bolt of lightning" in the history of the Universe.

Dillon is one of the so-called "New Complexity" composers, though there is nothing remotely new about his brand of impenetrable density. Massive scores in which dozens of instruments plough through mathematical formulae in order to illustrate some esoteric strand of German philosophy have been emptying concert halls for most of this century. The Usher Hall on Friday was no exception.

The

sadness is that Dillon clearly has an excellent ear for unusual and striking orchestral sonorities. Has he no true friend who will gently but firmly dissuade him from trudging ever further up the blind alley of obscurantism?

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12501	Andy Goram	Rangers	5.0
12601	Kevin Peterman	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
12701	Alan Main	St Johnstone	0.5
12801	Malk Taylor	Southampton	1.5
12901	Ian Walker	Tottenham Hotspur	3.0
13001	Lukech Miskito	West Ham United	2.0
13001	Neil Sullivan	Wimbledon	2.5

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Code Name Team Price (£m)

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
30101	Brian O'Neill	Aberdeen	2.0
30201	Tony Adams	Arsenal	3.0
30301	Martin Keown	Arsenal	3.5
30401	Giovanni Simeone	Arsenal	2.0
30501	Graeme Souness	Aston Villa	3.5
30601	Ugo Chiengwa	Aston Villa	1.0
30701	Adrian Moles	Barnsley	0.5
30801	Matty Appleby	Barnsley	0.5
30901	Colin Hendry	Blackburn Rovers	3.0
31001	Stephen Hartshorne	Blackburn Rovers	2.0
31101	Geoff Tunnell	Bolton Wanderers	1.5
31201	Graeme Bergson	Bolton Wanderers	1.0
31301	Chris Fardough	Bolton Wanderers	1.0
31401	Enrico Amroni	Bote	3.0
31501	Mally Mackay	Celtic	3.0
31601	Alan Shearer	Celtic	3.0
31701	Frank Leboeuf	Chelsea	3.0
31801	Michael Duberry	Chelsea	3.0
31901	Steve Clarke	Chelsea	2.5
32001	Bernard Lambourne	Chelsea	2.5
32101	Liam Deane	Coventry City	1.5
32201	Richie Shaw	Coventry City	1.5
32301	Paul Williams	Coventry City	1.5
32401	Andy Roberts	Crystal Palace	1.5
32501	Andy Unigian	Crystal Palace	0.75
32601	David Tuttie	Derby County	2.5
32701	Igor Šimšić	Derby County	1.5
32801	Jacob Luusua	Dundee United	3.0
32901	Steven Pressley	Dundee United	3.0
33001	Greg Shields	Dundee United	3.0
33101	Steve Blicc	Dundee United	2.0
33201	David Watson	Evian	2.0
33301	David West	Evian	2.0
33401	John Hughes	Hibernian	1.5
33501	David Wetherall	Leeds United	2.0
33601	Gunnar Heiðar	Leeds United	2.0
33701	Robbie Keane	Leeds United	1.5
33801	Liam Radford	Leeds United	2.0
33901	Matt Elliott	Leeds United	2.0
34001	Piotrus Kasmark	Leeds United	2.0
34101	Steve Walsh	Leeds United	2.0
34201	Mike Elliott	Leeds United	2.0
34301	Dominic Matteo	Leeds United	2.0
34401	Brian Kermode	Leeds United	2.0
34501	David May	Leeds United	2.0
34601	Gary Pallister	Leeds United	2.0
34701	Howard Berg	Leeds United	2.0
34801	Philippe Albert	Leeds United	2.0
34901	Damien Pasco	Leeds United	2.0
35001	Steve Hawey	Leeds United	2.0
35101	Alessandro Pistone	Leeds United	2.0
35201	John Scales	Leeds United	2.0
35301	John Toshack	Leeds United	2.0
35401	Jonas Björklund	Leeds United	2.0
35501	Lorenzo Amoruso	Leeds United	2.0
35601	Des Walker	Leeds United	2.0
35701	Jon Newson	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
35801	Peter Ashton	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
35901	Paul Ince	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
36001	David Johnson	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
36101	Paul Gascoigne	Sheffield Wednesday	2.5
36201	Richard Dryden	Southampton	1.0
36301	Claus Lundekvam	Southampton	1.0
36401	Sol Campbell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
36501	John Scales	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
36601	John Toshack	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
36701	Colin Collymore	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
36801	Rio Ferdinand	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
36901	Richard Hall	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
37001	Steve Potts	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
37101	David Unsworth	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
37201	Chris Waddle	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5
37301	Dean Blackwell	Tottenham Hotspur	2.5

MIDFIELD PLAYERS

Code Name Team Price (£m)

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
40101	Eoin Jess	Aberdeen	3.0
40201	Paul Bernard	Aberdeen	2.0
40301	Marc Overmars	Arsenal	3.5
40401	Patrick Vieira	Arsenal	2.5
40501	Stephen Hughes	Arsenal	2.5
40601	Ray Parlour	Arsenal	2.5
40701	David Platt	Arsenal	1.5
40801	Mark Draper	Aston Villa	4.0
40901	Ian Taylor	Aston Villa	2.5
41001	Neil Redfearn	Barnsley	2.0
41101	Eric Tinkler	Barnsley	2.0
41201	David Johnson	Barnsley	2.0
41301	Mark Gulezic	Barnsley	2.0
41401	John Hendrie	Barnsley	2.0
41501	John Hartson	Barnsley	2.0
41601	Mike Quinn	Barnsley	2.0
41701	Jason Milroy	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
41801	Billy McKinlay	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
41901	Tim Sherwood	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
42001	Gary Pilkrot	Blackburn Rovers	2.5
42101	Alan Thompson	Bolton Wanderers	3.0

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
50101	Billy Doddie	Aberdeen	5.0
50201	Ian Wright	Arsenal	7.5
50301	Dennis Bergkamp	Arsenal	7.5
50401	Dwight Yorke	Aston Villa	7.0
50501	Stan Collymore	Aston Villa	7.0
50601	Sava Milosevic	Aston Villa	3.0
50701	Georgi Hristov	Barsley	1.5
50801	John Hendrie	Barsley	1.5

STRIKERS

Code Name Team Price (£m)

Code	Name	Team	Price (£m)
60003	Clint Mathis	Barsley	1.0
60004	Per Franssen	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
60005	Michael Johansen	Bolton Wanderers	2.0
60701	Andrea Thom	Celtic	4.5
60702	Phil O'Donnell	Celtic	3.0
60703	Chris Waddle	Celtic	3.0
60801	John McEnery	Celtic	2.0
60802	Peter Beardsley	Celtic	2.0
60901	Jorge Cadete	Celtic	1.5
60902	Tommy Johnson	Celtic	4.0
61001	Darren Anderton	Chelsea	2.0
61002	Genaro Zeira	Chelsea	2.0
61003	Mark Hughes	Chelsea	5.0
61004	Dion Dublin	Coventry City	3.0
61005	John Hartson	Coventry City	3.0
61006	Darren Huckerby	Coventry City	2.5
61007	Neil Shipperley	Coventry City	2.5
61008	Double Freedman	Coventry City	2.0
61009	Bruce Dyer	Derby County	2.0
61010	David Madine	Derby County	2.0
61011	Ashley Ward	Derby County	2.0
61012	Francesco Balano	Derby County	2.0
61201			

Two late tries give Leicester the perfect platform to prepare for European competition

Greenwood grows into centre of excellence

Leicester 33
Gloucester 16
By DAVID HANS
RUGBY CORRESPONDENT

IF LEICESTER can put their immediate European past behind them as effectively as they did domestic history at Welford Road on Saturday, they will enjoy themselves this season. Less than five months ago, defeat away to Gloucester preceded the decline of their 1997 league title hopes; that damage has been repaired and this weekend Europe and the Heineken Cup, in which they were beaten finalists last January, awaits.

In fact the scoreline does Gloucester less than justice. That rugby is an 80-minute game we know, but to leak 14 points in the final three minutes will be seen by their players as harsh in the extreme after they had defended so well for the previous 77. There was, though, an air of inevitability about it, given Leicester's domination of territory and possession in the second half of an Allied Dunbar Premiership first division match that was a fusion of ambition and error.

Since the game is played in the mind, too, the gradual build-up preyed on Gloucester and when Joel Stransky kicked his fourth penalty goal to give Leicester a 19-16 advantage, the defence began to unravel. At much the same time, Will Greenwood finally cast off any mental shackles remaining from the serious concussion that he suffered playing for the British Isles in June and came into his own.

This could be a glorious winter for Greenwood, whose kit, under new arrangements at Leicester, is sponsored by a company called Prima Solutions. If that is an omen, then the big centre will recover his form and win the England cap that appears his for the taking: he admits that another handful of games are required to restore his confidence to the level that carried him triumphantly to Lions selection and the European hiatus of the next six weeks should serve.

Greenwood's try, erupting at the cutest of angles on to Stransky's pass, broke Gloucester hearts, though the Leicester midfield will do well to keep in mind the clinical efficiency with which Maple-



Stuart Potter, the Leicester centre, is hauled down as he tries to break through the Gloucester defence during his side's victory at Welford Road on Saturday

soft looped around Fanoula to score without a hand being laid on him. That try not only gave Gloucester a first-half lead, but was convincing evidence of the rugby that they seek to play.

That they could not on Saturday, before 11,159 spectators — whose expectations for Leicester grow higher by the year — said much about the erratic nature of the game. Bob Dwyer, the Leicester director of rugby, may have seen this as being a substantial improvement on the impoverished league start against Saracens a year ago, but he will shudder when he tallies up the turnovers and the mistakes that led to a succession of scrums.

"I thought it was a high-quality game compared with the beginning of last season — about 40 points better," Dwyer said. "Perhaps too much was expected of the international globetrotters; in truth, Serevi and Philippe Saint-André were peripheral figures, though Serevi popped up in almost every position but that of right wing, where he was lettered to play."

The Fijian helped Horak to the first try of the game, but it would be no surprise were he to change places with the South African. If Serevi's vision and unique skills are not to be underemployed, full back may be his best position, because, on this evidence, he is not an out-and-out finisher.

Horak has the speed and strength required for the wing — as has Marika Vunibaka, Serevi's countryman, at present embroiled in red tape as he seeks a work permit.

Leicester's opening quarter, filled with ambitious interplay from backs and forwards, brought them a 13-3 lead; Stransky, who missed one kick off the ground and a dropped goal from hand, punished Gloucester's mistakes, and Leicester's set-piece play developed well. Perhaps they lulled themselves into a false security since Mapletoft, within five minutes, scored 13 points in every permitted way, though his dropped goal owed much to Horak's strong burst into midfield.

Gloucester will use the European Conference as a period in which to assess their strengths. Richard Hill, their director of rugby, who could be forgiven had his attention wandered over the past fortnight through speculation over the England coaching role, wants to assess young forwards such as McCarthy, Vickery and Woodman without losing too much momentum. Hill also hopes for a meeting between coaches and referees to determine exactly how the tackle law will be applied.

"Everyone is in total confusion," he said. "Some referees allow bridging at the rucks, others don't. I'm not clear, the players aren't clear, there is no

common theme. The meeting at Bisham [last month] was not a constructive one and we need to sort it out. We will have different referees for European competition, but we need to know where we are when the Premiership resumes in October."

Gloucester suffered, too, from the ankle injury to Beniton that forced the scrum half off for the final quarter, by which time Stransky had levelled matters and Leicester's strength was waxing. Both clubs had missed try-scoring opportunities; Stransky broke clear but left the ball in Mapletoft's grasp. Greening pulled down Horak and Raphael Saint-André intercepted a scoring pass from Green-

wood; finally Miller snaffled a Gloucester lineout, which gave Greenwood his game-breaking opportunity, and Back was rolled over after Johnson's lineout catch. Some things never change.

SCORING (Leicester, Tries: Horak (2), Greenwood, Soller, W. Serevi, J. Stransky (2), Converstones, Stransky (4) (14, 46, 72); Gloucester: Try: Mapletoft (20); Conversions: Mapletoft (2), Greening (2); Penalties: 2 (17, 29); Dropped goals: Mapletoft (28).

SCORING SEQUENCE (Leicester first): 3-0, 6-0, 6-3, 13-3, 13-6, 13-9, 13-16 (half-time); 16-16, 19-16, 25-16, 25-18.

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CRICKET

Sore draw puts dampener on Glamorgan hopes

By ALAN LEE
CRICKET CORRESPONDENT

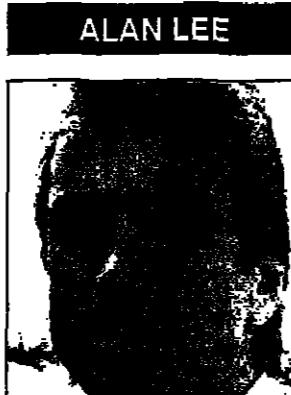
IF THIS is to be the last year of the county championship as we know it, the finale is a real page-turner. Just when the cluttered title race seemed to be taking a streamlined shape at last, the leaders have all tripped up in turn. Three weeks remain and the number of contenders must now be expanded to seven.

Tomorrow at Lord's, the First-Class Forum of the England and Wales Cricket Board (ECB) — effectively, the 18 counties — will consider the proposed reshaping of the championship under the MacLaurin blueprint. Whether they endorse or amend it, the championship is due for radical change, possibly as soon as next summer.

Everyone is in agreement that this must happen and few will be seduced by the drama of the present contest. Standards remain too inconsistent, the shortcomings of the system transparent. A close and open championship, superficially welcome though it is, may be thought to under-score the common mediocrities.

If the events on Saturday are seen in hindsight to have been influential, expect some loud complaints. Glamorgan, who began the day with every prospect of extending their advantage at the top, were controversially denied by Leicestershire's complacency over the weather forecast. Most of the square at Grace Road was left uncovered overnight and the game was abandoned.

Yorkshire, pursuing victory in the Roses match, were equally piqued when the covers at Old Trafford leaked. There, too, no play was possible and, although Kent did get some cricket at Portsmouth, they were restricted to bonus points when the Hampshire captain, John Stephenson, declined to indulge in the



Championship Commentary

currency of joke bowling and contrived targets.

Gloucestershire, granted the chance to go to the top of the table, fell 22 runs short of a target of 261 set by Nottinghamshire, and Worcestershire fared even worse, collapsing to 149 all out and defeat by 169 runs against Middlesex, who come back into the equation, along with Surrey.

The top seven are now covered by 22 points and it is possible that the title could be won with only seven victories in all. Two years ago, Middlesex and Northamptonshire each won 12 games and neither of them finished champions. Warwickshire having won a staggering 14 of their 17 games.

In that summer of 1995, only 29 games were drawn, partly a reflection of the good weather but more pertinently of the reluctance of teams to fight for draws when they could not win. It was all making for some depressingly soft cricket and the reintroduction of points for draws can now be welcomed favourably.

Last year, there were 50 draws and this year there have already been 59. Draws are not necessarily a good thing, but, in this instance, they

represent a toughening of attitudes, a pursuit of new incentives. My preferred route would now be the abolition of bonus points and an increased reward for draws, perhaps from three points to six.

The three points available will initially have seemed scant justice to Matthew Maynard and his Glamorgan side on Saturday. Already deprived of the first day by rain, they had engineered a winning position with two days of positive cricket. They were scuppered by a dodgy weather forecast and some dubious thinking from the Leicestershire management.

The pitch, itself, and its immediate surrounds, were covered overnight on Friday in line with ECB regulations.

The rest of the square was open to the elements and, instead of the dry night forecast, heavy rain fell between midnight and 7am, leaving the ground unfit and the umpires no alternative to abandonment.

Glamorgan were incensed and will make their protest to the ECB. The umpires must also give an interpretation of events in their report and it is possible that Leicestershire will face censure. The game, however, must stand as a draw, valuable ground lost for Glamorgan.

Yesterday, David Collier, chief executive of Leicestershire, reacted to criticism of his club with candour. "We are as desperately sorry about this as Glamorgan are," he said. "Everyone feels very deeply about it and I appreciate there are some pretty strong views. In their position, we would feel the same way Glamorgan do, although I must say they have shown us no bitterness, only disappointment.

The problem arose when we started to cut the outfield on Friday night. We wanted to complete the mowing early on Saturday and, as our local weather forecast was clear, we did not put the extra sheeting across the square. Like the weather forecasters, we were caught out."

Collier denies any wrongdoing. "We abided by regulations and I cannot see how any action against us would be appropriate. I will say, though, that we need to look back and learn, asking ourselves if we would do the same things again."

For Glamorgan, such soul-searching comes too late. Now they face a tough fixture at the Oval tomorrow while Kent, level on points at the top, have a mouthwatering home game against Gloucestershire.

TABLE

	P	W	L	D	St	St Pts
M Kent (4)	14	6	4	2	40	107
M Glamorgan (10)	14	6	2	6	32	45
M Gloucester (12)	14	6	4	2	31	48
M Yorks (8)	14	5	2	7	32	47
M Middlesex (9)	14	6	4	2	26	44
M Surrey (3)	14	5	3	2	22	43
M Worcs (7)	14	4	2	3	28	44
M Warwickshire (9)	14	4	2	3	28	44
M Essex (5)	14	4	5	5	33	47
M Leicestershire (11)	15	3	11	1	32	45
M Lancashire (10)	14	4	5	2	29	42
M Nottingham (11)	14	2	2	1	24	52
M Durham (14)	14	2	2	1	24	52
M Derbyshire (2)	14	2	2	1	24	45
M Sussex (12)	15	1	9	2	27	51
M Worcs (16)	14	2	5	7	24	38
M Northants (16)	14	2	5	7	24	38
M Derbyshire (2)	14	1	7	6	27	50
M Sussex (12)	15	1	9	2	27	51

(1995 points in brackets)

□ Worcestershire's record includes eight points for side-bating test in match where scores finished level



Maynard: frustrated

1995 points in brackets)

□ Worcestershire's record includes eight points for side-bating test in match where scores finished level

Britannic Assurance county championship

Derbyshire v Somerset
DERBY (final day of four): Derbyshire (5 pts) drew with Somerset (6).

DERBYSHIRE: First Innings 32 (M E Casper 7, P A J DeFreitas 50, S J Lacey 50; R A Caddick 49 for 96)

Second Innings

D G Cork not out 55

M H Maynard c Shilton b Shilton 1

T A Turner c Massey b Ross 26

A J Hartley not out 7

Extras (b, lb, w, r, n) 8

Total (2 wickets) 97

FALL OF WICKETS: 1-4, 2-81.

BOWLING: Caddick 6-19-0; Shine 8-0-3; Casper 7-17-0; DeFreitas 8-0-37-5; Lacey 14-2-75-2; Caddick 4-0-22-0; Turner 4-0-22-0; Hartley 4-0-22-0; Ross 4-0-22-0; Shilton 4-0-22-0.

Umpires: R Jalan and B Leadbetter.

Gloucestershire v Nottinghamshire

BRISTOL (final day of four): Nottinghamshire (5 pts) drew with Gloucestershire (6) by an 8-wicket.

NOTTINGHAMSHIRE: First Innings 294 (M W Alleyne 71, T P Robinson 68, M P Dowson 62, M A Smith 6 for 60)

Second Innings

M P Dowson bowled by Lewis 26

N J Atlett c Toshkov b Lewis 26

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Castle lost in the fog as Sky clouds the issue

One of the first things you notice about Sky's tennis coverage is how extraordinarily like the BBC's it is. Now you might expect to say that about a number of sports that the two broadcasters have in common, but you cannot because Sky puts its own unmistakable stamp on most of them. From Martin Tyler and Andy Gray on football, to Keith Henman and Julian Ryden on motorcycling, it is a style characterised by enthusiasm, debacles and, above all, more words per minute than you will ever hear on the BBC. Until you get to tennis.

Suddenly, the satellite channel resounds to the sound of silence. On Wednesday, when I dropped in on

Henman against Muster at the US Open, minutes passed before anybody commented on the game, let alone brought me up to date with the score. Eventually, the voice of Gerry Williams interrupted: "Henman leads by two sets to love, but is 2-1 down in the third with a break against him." This was followed by still more silence, the like of which has not been heard since Dan Maskell gave up Wimbledon. What happened next is my fault. Two-one down with a break against when you are playing the No 5 seed, I wrongly interpreted as a turning point. That is how I came to miss the best match Henman has played for months. What happened on Friday, however, was not my

fault and showed that while Sky may sound like the BBC, it cannot always match the corporation for patriotic commitment.

All afternoon, Andrew Castle, Sky's anchorman, had been curiously vague about when we might see Henman against Ferreira. This was surprising because the order of play, displayed both on Cefax and Skytext, clearly indicated that the satellite network should be in for an early-evening ratings boost with the match expected on at about 6pm. Six o'clock came and went – and still Williams concentrated on the entertaining game between Kafelnikov and Woodforde. But by 6.30pm, Woodforde had wrapped it up. Surely, it was

time for Henman now. Wrong, said a caption – Henman against Ferreira would be on Sky Sports 2 at the surprisingly specific time of 8pm.

It did not take too long to discover that the reason for the precise start was that Sky had abandoned plans to show the match live. There was live rugby league on Sky Sports 1 and live first division football on Sky Sports 3. The result?

Not-at-all-live tennis would have to wait until Sky Sports 2 got underway at 8pm – and only when the scheduled golf had been postponed.

By 7.30pm, any half-way serious tennis fan would have known it was all over and Sky had tossed a golden opportunity away. In the studio in London, Castle and Peter Fleming, his regular guest, were about to have to do an awful lot of pretending. "I

think this is a big challenge for Tim – there's a danger of a let-down," Fleming said half-heartedly. "Indeed," Castle agreed.

Saturday, however, was a better day. Rusedski won during the live afternoon coverage and was followed by entertaining victories for both Hingis and Sampras. The Sky commentators, however, were still sounding awfully like the BBC, especially when Williams teamed up with Bill Threlfall, his former BBC colleague.

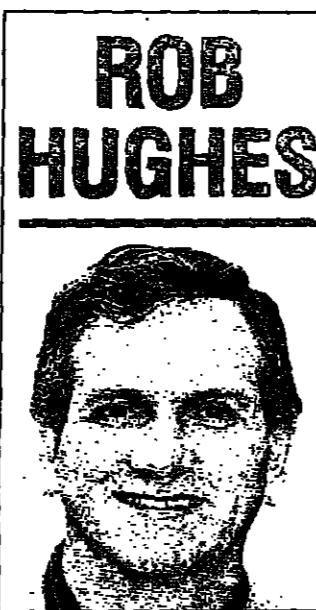
There was more to come, though. Midway through Hingis v Likhovtseva, the faintly annoying Williams explained that both players had been given instructions by the umpire to take a longer break

about him. On Saturday, he tried to sting him into life by blaming the new rules that have deprived the game of its characters on John McEnroe, Fleming's former doubles partner. "Yeah," Fleming replied, "you're probably right."

Nor are Sky's efforts to bring a dull tournament to some sort of life being helped by some astonishingly mediocre pictures being provided by the host broadcaster. "I wonder if we'll see a replay of that remarkable shot," Threlfall mused on Saturday, as Sampras delighted the crowd at Flushing Meadows with a winner played behind his back. "If not, the director is letting us down." No prizes for guessing what did not happen next.

Cape Town and Buenos Aires will this week lead attempts to take the Olympic torch down a new route

Bidding to bask in glow of the Games



ROB HUGHES

country's isolation to remember Baron Pierre de Coubertin's vision to enoble sports, improve the human race and increase understanding between people.

The irony should be lost on no one, though one Italian, Primo Nebiolo, a manipulator in the extreme, is certain that his persuasion will defeat Mandela's. The vibes, even as far as Cape Town are that Nebiolo's Rome will regain the Olympic flame that it last lit in 1960, that the lure of Rome's grandiosity, the prospect of closing all hotels in the Via Veneto to all bar the Olympic Family, and the influence of Nebiolo, has put the Olympic Games in the bag.

He does not hide his lust for self-promotion: he is a member of the Olympic club, he is president of the International Amateur Athletic Federation and has appointed himself honorary president of the Rome bid. And Dr Nebiolo is not shy of using each of those offices in his own kind of circle. So if the

country's isolation to remember Baron Pierre de Coubertin's vision to enoble sports, improve the human race and increase understanding between people.

The bidders fear it, yet spend millions on promoting their cause, on wining and dining the most exclusive VIPs in the land, on bowing from whatever government rank they themselves occupy to these holders of the votes.



"secret" ballot on Friday is already spoken for, is this week a hollow charade? Is it so manipulative?

The bidders fear it, yet spend millions on promoting their cause, on wining and dining the most exclusive VIPs in the land, on bowing from whatever government rank they themselves occupy to these holders of the votes.

If Cape Town thinks it offers something unique, then so does Buenos Aires. There has never been an Olympics in South America: theirs would also be an untried route for the flame.

Argentina was among the founders of the reborn modern Olympics. Buenos Aires has bid repeatedly and is waiting to be the last of the founding nations to

be favoured with staging the Games.

Athens, denied the 1996 Olympics, even though it was the centenary of the Games' rebirth on their soil, is trying again: trying very hard to convince the members that, with new metro lines sunk beneath the city, with – at last – a modern and capable airport, it can not only cope with the

gigantic show but also promises that the infamous pollution will be reduced in the new millennium by one third of its present crippling level.

A third less foul air still compares ill to Stockholm, where conservation of the environment is one trump card and where the compact arenas appeal to the athletes. More than 50, including

ROME
FOR: proven hosts, overall concept rated excellent by IOC evaluation team. Via Veneto and Via Appia appeals to members of the nobility.
AGAINST: Traffic hell, mistreatment of claims on traffic and crime. Nebiolo abrasiveness.

STOCKHOLM
FOR: Athletes choice, accessibility, atmosphere conducive to performance. Guarantees trusted by IOC.
AGAINST: Public antipathy, boorishness.

CAPE TOWN
FOR: Scenic beauty beneath Table Mountain, rising African potential, contributing to human rights.
AGAINST: Crime and political uncertainty, Cape Town claims that crime will be gone by 2004 so, alas, will President Mandela.

ATHENS
FOR: Bringing the Games home, repaying the Olympic debt. Compact sites.
AGAINST: Heat, pollution, congestion. Poor attendances at World Athletic Championships.

BUENOS AIRES
FOR: Persistence, fifth bid, the only country to bid for the Games.
AGAINST: Doubts over \$1.28 billion budget, distance from Western capitals.

such famous names as Sergey Bubka, Wilson Kipketer, Carl Lewis and Ferenc Puskas, have formed an Athletes' Council supporting the Stockholm bid.

In Athens last month, during the poorly attended world athletics championships, Ato Boldon, the sprinter, was at the Swedish Embassy, articulating his support for Stockholm.

But would the members break with tradition and actually heed the word of those who take part? There is no track record of the Olympic fathers ever doing so, perhaps cruelly, given that Stockholm had endured nine arson or bomb attacks at sporting venues during this campaign. Arne Ljungqvist, Sweden's IOC member, said that he hoped the IOC would listen to "the voice of the athletes and not the sound of explosions".

From Rome to Cape Town, there are those who wait and pray. The South African city knows that it must convince 110 people in the world that it can erase crime, just as it has begun to overcome apartheid. Ever optimistic, Cape Towners have put a drape across an unfinished byway. It reads: "The Olympics will take care of unfinished business."

Sports Letters may be sent by fax to 071-782 5211. They must include a daytime telephone number.

Atherton and English cricket

From Mr Tim Steele

Sir. There should never have been a question of Mike Atherton resigning because of uncertainty over the extent of confidence which the selectors or public had in him.

Although his record is not perfect, the England team's performance this summer in holding the best team in the world to a 2-3 series result is by no means undistinguished, especially considering the last time Australia toured this country.

In addition to this:

- a) he is not yet 30 – age should not be a consideration;
- b) His batting form is still good enough to warrant his inclusion in the Test team on form alone;
- c) His tactical captaincy, especially on Saturday of the final Test, has been excellent;
- d) There is a singular lack of plausible replacements.

Recent history has shown how short-sighted it is to hound captains from their post when there is public dissatisfaction with the team's performance.

Yours faithfully,

TIM STEELE

31 High Street, Milton, Cambridge.

From Mr Dennis Berry

Sir. Amid all the agonising about the state of English cricket, why do the correspondents not address the real problem? Cricket is a mind-game, but apart from the odd pep-talk in the dressing room little else appears to be done about it.

The Australians are told that they are the best team in the world and they believe it. They approach every game with the mind-set of invincibility. Every ball is bowled, fielded or stroked with utter conviction. Self-doubt is eradicated and positivism rules.

The English team has equally good techniques but without the mental conviction to back it up, they usually fail.

Last May an article appeared in the *Scotsman* written by Ted Corbitt and headed "Breamley to rescue England again". Unfortunately this prediction appears to have been wrong. One needs little reminding of Mike Breamley's achievements, however, of how he wrenches victory from defeat at the famous 1981 Test by inspiring those amazing performances from Botham and Willis. As Rodney Hogg said of him: "He had a degree in people" – the most cerebral of all English captains.

I know Mike Breamley has a busy and developing psychotherapy practice, but I also

The wet sponge and other remarkable cures

From Mr J Taylor

Sir. Mr Samuel's comments (Sports Letters, August 25) on the properties of the magic sponge reminds me of the story told me by a friend, who in the 1950s played football for Sheffield United. During one match he was rendered unconscious by a kick to the groin.

The trainer raced on to the field to administer the cold water. He splashed some on his face and the remainder was poured down the front of his shorts. In his haste to attend the sick the trainer had unfortunately picked up not the water but a bottle of surgical spirits.

The effect was certainly magical. Not only was Harry partially blinded but he developed a speed of foot unequalled in Olympic history as he ran to the touchline to find the bucket. Harry managed to splash water on his face to clear the eyes when he sat in the bucket. This also worked. He is now the father of two.

The same trainer claimed to have discovered

that he never misses a Test match anywhere in the country. Why on earth has the cricket establishment failed to employ this vast and currently utterly relevant talent? If anyone could counsel defeatism and timidity from the English agenda, this man can.

Yours faithfully,
DENNIS BERRY

11 Fairacre, Acacia Grove, New Malden, Surrey.

From Mr Vaughan Harris

Sir. To his most welcome article today (August 26) John

Woodcock would, I am sure, willingly add the other half of the "spin dimension": the skill of the best batsmen when facing the spinners.

George Headley playing H.G. Owen-Smith in "The Parks" in 1933, for example, on the back foot, bat raised, and the stroke at the last split second – the leg-break late cut, the rest struck past square leg.

Well as Tufnell bowled at the Oval, he has not had to bowl to batsmen of this quality; cautious or apprehensive forward prods made life easier for him. Let us hope that we shall see cricket recover what it is missing.

Yours faithfully,
VAUGHAN HARRIS

Christ Church Road, Cheltenham.

Origin of the Ashes

From Col Oliver Lindsay

Sir. "Many are the legends about the Ashes" writes your cricket correspondent (August 23). I was not aware there were any doubts about their origin.

A large house party had filled Rupertswood near Melbourne with eight English amateur cricketers as the guests of honour. After a convivial lunch on Christmas Eve 1882 my great grandfather, Sir William Clarke, proposed a social cricket match as appropriate exercise for the gentlemen present. Wickes were pitched on the small ground laid out on the slope between his house and the railway line, an Australian team was selected from the house party, and sundry gardeners and grooms were recruited to do the more strenuous fielding in the warm sunshine.

Pat Lyons, a black-bearded Irishman who chopped wood on the estate, recalled the match forty years later. The gentlemen did the bowling and the batting and them English cricketers could surely hit the ball. We lads were kept on the run, fetching back the fours and the sixes. It was just a light-hearted game,

nobody keeping the scores, but they reckoned that the English won."

During the match one of the spectators asked my great grandmother, Janet Clarke, what prize the teams were playing for. She jokingly replied that a trophy was needed. On Christmas Day she handed Ivo Bligh, a small pottery urn. It contained the ashes of one of the balls used on the previous day. She remarked that England and Australia now had a trophy for which to play. Bligh replied that his team would ensure that the urn and its contents would be borne off to England after the coming Test matches. And, as everyone knows, the ashes have remained in England ever since.

Yours faithfully,
OLIVER LINDSAY

Brookwood House, Brookwood, Woking, Surrey.

From Mr M Halliwell

Sir. Whilst I applaud a remarkable rear-guard action and an excellent victory, I still believe that the Ashes should be returned to Australia.

What other contest is fought over with the victors having to return empty-handed with nothing to show their supporters?

Yours sincerely,
MARTIN HALLIWELL

94, Park Court, London SW1.

This week in THE TIMES



■ Tomorrow

Happy Wanderers? Oliver Holt watches Bolton kick off live at the Reebok Stadium in the Premiership against Everton.

■ Thursday

First reports from the England camp preparing for the World Cup tie against Moldova.

■ Saturday

Prospects for the NatWest Trophy final between Warwickshire and Essex and a look at Ferrari's chances of a home victory in the Italian Grand Prix.

FOOTBALL

Struggling City are betrayed by anxiety

Charlton Athletic 2
Manchester City 1

By BILL EDGAR

EIGHT months ago, The Valley witnessed Kevin Keegan's last stand as Newcastle United manager before he succumbed to the stress of his job and resigned. While Manchester City's defeat at the same venue on Saturday is unlikely to prompt their manager, Frank Clark, into taking the same drastic step, it did increase the pressure on him that arises from the tale of two Cities — the real, hard times City, and the city of the fans' great expectations.

Before the game — City's fourth in the Nationwide League first division without a win in a season already blighted

porters included. While the Londoners would welcome the extra revenue, City could go about seeking promotion to the Premiership in a less tense and frenetic environment.

Certainly, Charlton remained composed and their supporters stayed patient for the 48 minutes during which they trailed to a twentieth-minute header by Gerard Wiekens, from a corner by Horlock.

Bradbury, recently signed from Portsmouth for £3.5 million, could have doubled City's lead, but after out-sprinting Chapple to Symons's long ball, he was dispossessed by a diving Patterson, one of five Australian goalkeepers playing in the top two divisions.

Charlton's record signing, Mendonca, who cost a fifth of Bradbury's fee when he arrived from Grimsby in the close season, delivered a series of incisive lay-offs from his centre forward position, one of which led to the equaliser. Barnes, the left back, was the beneficiary of Mendonca's vision in the 68th minute, charging towards the City penalty area before sending over a teasing cross that Van Blerk turned into his own net.

Sixty seconds later, the comeback was complete when the ball broke to Keith Jones 12 yards out and the midfield player's weakly hit shot bobbed into the net for only his second goal in 85 appearances for the club. City, who badly missed Georgi Kinkladze, who bruised an ankle in midweek and showed little sign of recovery after falling behind, were second to nothing.

Clark, who stayed off the threat of relegation after arriving at Maine Road last December, said: "We've lost ten points this season and the only way we can turn it around is by banting. We didn't pass the ball as well as we can and we were second to every challenge." But he insisted: "I haven't lost faith in the players." He must hope City supporters continue to display equal confidence in him.

CHARLTON ATHLETIC (4-3-3): A Barnes, S Barnes, R Barber, P Copley, A Barnes — S Newton, M Kinsella, K Jones, J Robinson — C Mendonca, S Jones.

MANCHESTER CITY (4-4-2): M Morgan, G Barber, K Symons, J Brightwell, I van Blerk — N Summerville, E McGoldrick (sub: T Scully, 79), G Walker, K Horlock — L Tait, R Hester.

Referee: R Harris



Clark under pressure

ed by a Coca-Cola Cup defeat against Blackpool — Clark had spoken of the "exaggerated hysteria" surrounding the club and said that the team "must not be frightened by the hunger of the fans". However, Alan Curbishley, the Charlton Athletic manager, whose side secured victory through an own goal and a scuffed shot — typical City luck at the moment — noticed anxiety in the opposition.

"It looked like they were desperate to get their first win," Curbishley said. "They got their goal and then sat back on it. We felt they played into our hands."

One might mischievously suggest that Charlton, ground-sharers with Crystal Palace and West Ham United in the past decade, should ground-swap with City, sup-



Robertson, centre, the Heart of Midlothian forward, is foiled by Hibernian in the Edinburgh derby, which Hearts won 1-0 at Easter Road

Old Firm bid to cross new frontiers

Kevin McCarra on how the foreign legion of Rangers and Celtic must come to terms with football's fiercest rivalry

BEDLAM has its ante-rooms. Before the postponement of the first Old Firm meeting of the season, ritual mayhem had been scheduled to take place this evening, but not even Celtic Park, with its capacity of 47,000, could contain the city's obsession with the rivalry. The 1-1 draw between the Rangers and Celtic reserve teams at Ibrox on Saturday was watched by a crowd of 33,800.

It was the fourth-biggest attendance in Britain that afternoon. The statistic will be cited with pride by locals, who take it as proof that Glasgow still possesses the most unshaken devotion of all to football.

Others hold the darker opinion that the fanatical interest in a peripheral group of players, who just happen to be clad in evocative strips, really testifies to the vigour of sectarianism in the West of Scotland.

Whatever the interpretation, the nature of the public reaction isolates the Old Firm from every other fixture. Until the arrival of Wim Jansen in the summer as head coach, Celtic had, almost exclusively, been man-

aged by former players of the club. Even the sole exception, Liam Brady, is a Dubliner who had some inkling of the passions at work in Glasgow. Knowing the frenzy they awaited, those men could steel themselves to face it. Jansen can only be unprepared.

As a distinguished servant of Feyenoord, first as player and then as coach, he may have had many encounters with Ajax, but participants portray that fixture as a contest of strategy and technique. Those terms rarely have to be unpacked when the vocabulary needed to describe an Old Firm match is being set out.

No clash between Celtic and Rangers has ever been called bloodless and, as long as the attitudes of the audience remain unaltered, the teams will be scolded if they lapse into cerebral behaviour. Nonetheless, it seems that the character of this derby match cannot help but undergo a change.

Both clubs are in the midst of reconstruction and it had been expected that eight players would be appearing in an Old Firm match for the first time tonight. Only one of them, Craig Burley, of Celtic, is a Scot. That group of incomers cannot possibly be attuned to Glaswegian sentiments at an Old Firm occasion. Nor, given its unsavoury aspect, would they even wish to be on that wavelength.

Strangeness from the local culture need not prevent a person from excelling. Celtic must wish devoutly that Brian Laudrup had found the whole event foreign to him, but, instead, Rangers' Danish forward has often been the decisive presence in the fixture over the past three years. He and other overseas signings, however, are not touched by the animosities and, in Laudrup's case, the detachment may be to his benefit.

When the Old Firm encounter, whose new date is yet to be confirmed, does take place, half the figures on the pitch will be men who recognise that they have entered an important match, but do not feel that they are heirs to an ancient vendetta. Eleven of the probable recruits for a peculiarly Scottish battle were born outside the British Isles.

They are to be welcomed if they bring calm and a superior level of skill, but there are reservations over the dependency on players who have no natural affinity with the clubs that pay them so very generously.

For each Laudrup, who has come as a blessing to Scottish football, there are several others who lack conviction and whose skills are scarcely more refined than those of the native players.

It is too early to pass judgment on a new Rangers team whose members are only just getting acquainted, but the 3-0 defeat in the away leg that decided the recent

European Cup tie with IFK Gothenburg left one with the feeling that some of the Scots who played for the club in the recent past would have shown greater resilience. There is no xenophobia in the opinion.

Human beings, of any nationality, find it difficult to cross frontiers. The British, above all, should appreciate that, for some of our footballers became infamous for their narrow-minded failure to settle in other countries. Once the post-Bosman euphoria has passed, all clubs may start to suspect that a core of native players is required for success.

If the Old Firm find a renewed dedication to youth development, it will stem from self-interest more than altruism. The potential rewards are already evident. In the reserve match on Saturday, Rangers had a team that included six foreigners and cost almost £10 million, but a side composed wholly of teenagers reared by Celtic drew 1-1, despite suffering two sendings-off. Many Scots who feel nothing but scorn for both clubs will still take pleasure in that result.

Robson paves way for Ravanelli exit

By DAVID MADDOCK

FABRIZIO RAVANELLI appears to have played his last game for Middlesbrough. Bryan Robson, the manager, hinted that the Italian's troubled tenure at the Riverside Stadium had come to an end yesterday when he admitted that he had been unable to patch up differences between the pair.

Ravanelli was missing from the Middlesbrough team that visited Tranmere Rovers on Saturday and afterwards Robson explained that he had allowed the player to return to his native Italy. The manager suggested that the time had come to address Ravanelli's continuing problems at the club and hinted strongly that he would finally be allowed to leave.

The Italy international centre forward had started the season on Teesside when he was unable to find another

club during the summer, but even though he pledged his loyalty to the club that paid a record £7.5 million for his services a year ago, the striker continued to insist privately to Robson that he could not possibly play in the Nationwide League first division yesterday when he admitted that he had been unable to patch up differences between the pair.

It was this stumbling-block that prevented an agreement from being reached last week when the player held talks with Steve Gibson, the Middlesbrough chairman, in an attempt to find a solution.

Ravanelli made it clear he still wanted to leave and now it appears Robson has granted his wish.

"I have been talking to Ravanelli about his position and I have tried to help him as much as possible, but he says he just doesn't feel right," Robson said. "That's why I have let him go back to Italy, if he didn't feel right then I thought it was best to allow

him to join up early with the squad for the international next week. We will just take it from there. There have been several inquiries for the player, but so far we have been unable to reach agreement with any club and we are still waiting now for an offer to match our valuation."

Everton were prepared to



Ravanelli: in Italy

Derby debut goal for Juninho

By OUR SPORTS STAFF

JUNINHO scored on his debut for Atlético Madrid on Saturday night, but was still upstaged by Clarence Seedorf in the Madrid derby. Seedorf, the Holland mid-fielder, scored with a swerving shot from more than 40 yards to earn Real Madrid a point.

Juninho, who joined Atlético from Middlesbrough for £12 million in the summer, put his new team ahead in the sixteenth minute in the Santiago Bernabéu Stadium when he scored from the edge of the area with a shot that beat Real defenders. Sanchis and Karanka, and gave Cañizares, the goalkeeper, no chance.

However, his thunder was stolen by Seedorf, whose goal after 75 minutes meant that Real extended their unbeaten sequence over Atlético in the league to 12 games.

Real had the majority of the

possession, but struggled to find their finishing touch until Seedorf struck. Cañizares, though, had an outstanding match and constantly frustrated the attempts of Christian Vieri, Atlético's other new signing, to match Juninho's goal. Vieri, who was signed for £12.5 million from Juventus, had three clear-cut first-half chances foiled by Cañizares.

Molina, the Atlético goalkeeper, had an equally impressive game, defying the best efforts of the twin strike force of Súker and Mijatović.

The only disappointment in a rousing game was the performance of Raúl, the Real forward, who squandered several opportunities and became involved in a pushing match with Geli, the Atlético defender, after Mijatović had been scythed down by Aguilera.

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Leatherhead catch up with Celaire

Leatherhead 2
Wealdstone 0

By WALTER GAMMIE

THEIR clubs' fabled FA Cup days may lie some distance in the past, but the 337 supporters of Leatherhead and Wealdstone at Fetcham Grove on Saturday generated noise and atmosphere appropriate to something higher up the scale than a preliminary-round tie.

The prize trip to Langney Sports, the Sussex County League, in the first qualifying round went to Leatherhead. They deserved it on the strength of an increasingly authoritative display, after surviving a shaky start at the hands of the raw, pacy talent of Mario Celaire.

Celaire is one of those players that managers dream of discovering. Gordon Bartlett, giving the striker only his second start for Wealdstone, said: "He's got great potential. You cannot coach that pace into someone, you cannot coach that strength — those are gifts of nature, but there is a great deal to work on."

As Celaire's threat faded, two goals after half-time by Webb, the second skilfully curled from 25 yards, defeated a makeshift Wealdstone side that suffered by comparison with Keith Wenhams's well-organised Leatherhead team.

Wenhams doubles up as part of the board of directors formed by Gerald Darby that has steadily patched up a ground to which little or none of the money generated by the Cup exploits of the Seventies was devoted. They have put in £75,000 to lift it to a B grade and will be helped towards an A grade by the family of the late Bernard Edwards, a stalwart through thick and thin, who are contributing to a new stand in his memory.

The groundwork done, Wenhams was given the resources to gather a team that gained promotion from the ICS League second division last season — and so avoided league confrontation with Wealdstone, who won the third division title under Bartlett.

Whether they can go on to emulate the rise of Woking, their neighbours, remains doubtful. "Surrey is a difficult area in which to raise enthusiasm for foot-

ball," Darby said. "Even if Woking went the next step up, I cannot see them getting many more people to watch them than the 2,000 or so they get at the moment. Having said that, we need success like every club. Success brings in the supporters. It helps to sell the clubs to sponsors and business."

Bartlett's hands are tied by having no reserve or youth set-up to work with while the club is ground-sharing at Edgware Town. Wealdstone, leading a wandering existence since selling Lower Mead in 1991, have, however, high hopes of developing a new ground.

They are in continuing negotiations over gaining access to Prince Edward Playing Fields, a 42-acre site back in the club's spiritual home of Harrow, that Paul Rumens, the chairman, rates as having a "more than 50-50 chance" of coming to fruition.

LEATHERHEAD (4-4-2): S Far — S Lamman, E Davison, S Lewis, C Harris — P Reed (sub: A O'Brien), G Anst, A Whitt, S Boddy (sub: R Arnold, 67) — R Edwards.

WEALDSTONE (3-5-2): D Bowld — S Atkin (sub: S Gomer, 67), J Waugh, F Moore — A Galloway (sub: T Hobson, 67), P Lam, S Graham, C Walton (sub: A Smith, 67), S Bowld — B Jones, M Celaire.

Referee: J Ford

Waddle yet to pass on the magic at lowly Turf Moor

Burnley 0
Bristol Rovers 0

By NICK SZCZEPANIK

IN a new authorised biography, Chris Waddle is described by Bobby Robson as an all-time great, alongside Best, Maradona and Pele. But George Best never tried to make it as a manager. He probably knew that greatness on the field is no guarantee of greatness in the dugout: for every Franz Beckenbauer, there is a Bobby Charlton; for every Kenny Dalglish, a Peter Shilton.

Conversely, players who have never scaled the heights can find their calling at the helm: Roy Hodgson is a timely example, or even Ian Holloway, the player-manager at Bristol Rovers, the job that Waddle is attempting to master at Burnley. On the evidence of the Nationwide League second division table, not to mention the game on Saturday at Turf Moor, which ended with Burnley being booted off, Holloway is doing it rather better than Waddle, but he is in his second year.

"I really feel for him," Holloway said. "You hear the crowd moaning at what his side are doing and that affects him. I know it and I've been through it. It's not a nice period. It's time — everybody needs time."

Waddle developed the theme. "People say, 'Where's the flowing football?'" but what's six weeks? It took Alex Ferguson years to get Manchester United where they are. If people haven't got time, good luck to them. I'm quite happy with the way it's going and I'll get it right."

Defensive on the field as well as in the press conference, Waddle, whose staff include Gordon Cowans and Glenn Roeder, played as sweeper, but it was not a success. He was caught in possession more than once early on and the memory of his outstanding international career became increasingly hard to conjure up. He hit long passes to opponents more often than not, he swiped at empty air instead of a through pass and once sliced the ball over his head, forcing Marlon Beresford, his goalkeeper, to nod the ball to safety.

It was not his team's most wretched moment; that came when Paul Barnes's attempt at a scoring header at the near post became a clearance any defender would have been proud of. By the time Cureton and Hayles squandered late chances to give Rovers a win they would just about have deserved, many locals were heading for home.

Burnley languish in 23rd place, with only two points from four league games, while Rovers are among the early pacers, but Holloway had some advice for Waddle: "If you hit a bad ball, the rest of the players lose inspiration. They're looking to him to be 30 to 40 per cent of the team. If he just concentrates on being his ten per cent, the rest should fall into place. I'm very pleased to come here and get a point — and that speaks volumes for Burnley, doesn't it?"

BURNLEY (3-5-2): M Beresford — S Bathurst, C. Walker, D. Mathew, L. Howey — R Edwards, F. Barnes, D. Mathew — J. Barnes, I. Duxbury (sub: N Moore, 73), P Barnes

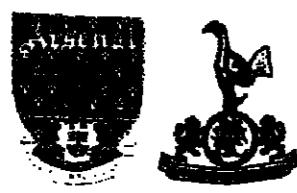
BRISTOL ROVERS (4-4-2): A Cole — J Purdy, B. Gavins, T. Tilson, D. Pritchard — F. Barnes, S. Renshaw (sub: S. Barnes), P Barnes, I. Holloway, J. Curton — T. Abos, B. Hayes

Referee: T. Hedron

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PREMIERSHIP: Arsenal are denied victory by North London rivals while Chelsea continue their goal spree

Spurs frustrate Wright's ambition



ARSENAL 0
TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR 0
By Oliver Holt
Football Correspondent

AT THE end of the long line of Arsenal players running backwards and forwards across the pitch, warming up before the game, Ian Wright stopped and turned to watch the giant screen in one corner of Highbury. At first, he sneaked a couple of glances at the pictures being flashed up and joked with his team-mates about them. Gradually, though, he became enthralled.

It was a highlights video that was being advertised, something that looked like a life of Ian Wright, with still photos of him as a child, footage of him singing a rap song and of him talking to camera. And then there were the goals: the twisting, turning runs, the delicate chips, right-foot shots, left-foot shots, prods from four yards and headers.

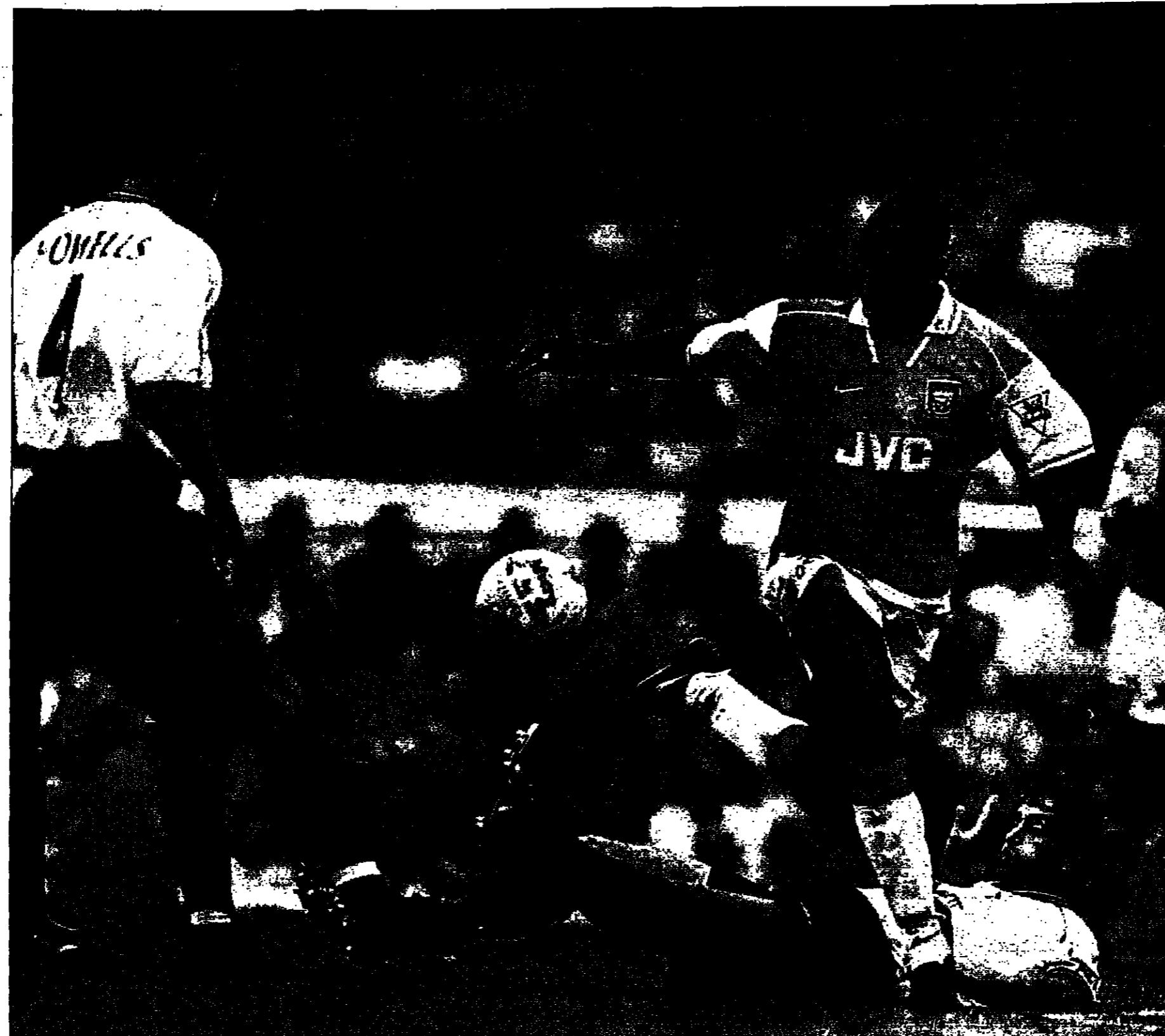
Almost as much time was devoted to the celebrations, the show that

Wright has turned into an art-form. In his early Arsenal days, he seemed to favour a leap into the arms of a team-mate. Now, it is more individual, all pumping arms and a little bit of jive or imitations of other players. All of it, of course, was set to pounding music.

At the end, the announcer said that the full version of the video would be shown before the first home game after Wright had broken Cliff Bastin's club record of 178 goals. He said that meant it would probably be shown before the game against Bolton Wanderers, the next game, because everyone was assuming that Wright would get the brace he needed against Tottenham Hotspur. Out on the pitch, the spell was broken and the players tripped off to prepare for the match.

It was supposed to be written in the stars that Wright would break the record on Saturday. His own sense of occasion should have seen to that. Instead, his rush towards Bastin's mark has slowed to an agonising crawl, exacerbated by the excessive reaction to his foolish decision to berate the referee at the end of Arsenal's match with Leicester City last week.

He came close against Spurs, terribly close. He hit the woodwork on the stroke of half-time when Bergkamp, almost inadvertently, slipped a ball through a defender's legs and left Wright with only Walker to beat. His shot hit the crossbar. After the interval, an overhead kick flew straight into Walker's arms and, 12 minutes from the final whistle, he was



Wright's run at goal is blocked by Howells, left, and Mabbett, who ensured that the Arsenal striker failed to break the club's goalscoring record against Tottenham

denied by the last of several superb tackles from Campbell, the game's outstanding player.

By the time that the match had finished, though, people were not talking about what was written in the stars but about the disciplinary clouds that were obscuring them, gathering over Highbury. The criticism, fuelled by the events of last week and by another booking each for Wright and Bergkamp on Saturday, has become so vociferous that Arsène Wenger, the Arsenal manager, was moved to liken himself to a 'thunderstorm protector'.

Wenger, who had watched as Southampton limped off with a twisted ankle after Wright's needless tackle from behind, hinted at a future

conflict with the Football Association when he stressed Arsenal's desire for Wright's latest misconduct charge to be dealt with soon rather than allowed to drag on for the sake of expediency until after England's game with Italy in Rome on October 11. His main concern, though, was the renewed scrutiny being applied to Arsenal's record of yellow cards. They have had 14 bookings already this season.

"I can take the criticism," Wenger said. "I am here for that. I would rather it came to me than was directed at my players. They kick him and kick him and kick him and kick him and then the first reaction he gives is ten men behind the ball."

Wenger said that he was pleased with the Arsenal performance, particularly in the first half when

these bookings go because, in the end, we will pay the price with suspensions.

"I do not want the team to change the way it is playing, but I would like to change some nervous or frustrated individual reactions. That is where we have to improve our behaviour. We are now in a situation where Bergkamp has got a yellow card in three successive games, but I find it strange to think he might soon be suspended and not the defenders who taunt him. They kick him and kick him and kick him and kick him and then the first reaction he gives is ten men behind the ball."

Wenger said that he was pleased with the Arsenal performance, particularly in the first half when

they hit the Tottenham woodwork four times. Howells nearly scored an own goal when he deflected Bould's shot on to a post in the eleventh minute and, seven minutes later, Overmars's snap-shot from 20 yards bounced down off the underside of the crossbar.

Ten minutes before the interval, Bergkamp's thunderous free kick was touched on to the crossbar by Walker and then Wright missed his chance as half-time approached. In the second half, with Edinburgh off the field after being sent off for his second bookable offence, Tottenham dragged their remaining ten men behind the ball.

Campbell gave Wright what may be a taste of the future, dominating him completely with his muscular, athletic and assured defending that was as much a joy to watch as all Arsenal's first-half forays forward. And Mabbett, making the latest in his series of comebacks, marshalled the visitors' defence with aplomb.

"I wish we could do a brain transplant and put Mabbett's head on a transplant of young legs," Gerry Francis, the Spurs manager, said.

Wenger has not yet ventured the same opinion about the mind of Wright.

APPROVAL (4-4-2): D Seaman — L Dyer, S Bould, G Groves, N Warkham — R Parker (sub: N Ankers, 72min), E Petty (sub: D Pleat, 70), P Vieira, M Overmars — D Bergkamp, I Wright. TOTTENHAM HOTSPUR (4-4-2): I Walker — S Carr, S Sorensen, S Ovretveit, J Eustace, R Mabbett (sub: A Nielsen, 49), S Clement, D Howells, A Simons (sub: J Dominguez, 32) — S Svensen (sub: G McBurnie, 48), L Ferdinand. Referee: G Willard.

Wednesday
find their
rhythm as
Carbone
strikes



SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY 1
LEICESTER CITY 0
By Mark Hodgkinson

TWO large clocks at Hillsborough enable supporters to know precisely how much more football they have to endure or enjoy at any given moment. Sheffield Wednesday and Leicester City met on Saturday after playing in midweek games that had proffered 15 goals. This was the comedown, the revenge of the mundane. On both clocks and on every watch in the ground, time dragged — slowly, laboriously — and the midweek drama seemed like a myth by which we had been foolishly enticed.

David Pleat, the Wednesday manager, seems happy that his side has settled again after the 7-2 defeat at Blackburn. "We were looking for some shape today and it was important we came away with a result."

The first half was particularly barren with only one dash of passion, though this was suitably ridiculous. Paolo di Canio miscontrolled a pass and it appeared to roll into touch. The referee gave a throw-in, while Di Canio gave a soliloquy to remember. Feet stamping, arms waving, he berated the referee's assistant until the referee, quite rightly, halted the pelting with a booking.

"I am really worried," Pleat said. "There is retribution and there are gestures. There is a big difference. He didn't call the referee a name, it was nothing dramatic."

It was dramatic: the kind of drama one finds at a children's party when the jelly and ice-cream supplies have run low and someone suggests small portions all round. The comedy of Di Canio's outburst was accentuated by his brilliant white boots. He looked as if he had stepped in a tin of paint on his way from the dressing-room and paddled about the pitch with a strangely effeminate zeal. It was as if, at any minute, his boots were going to float skywards and take him with them.

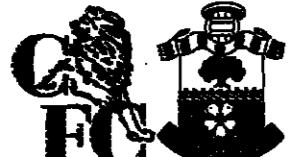
The main feature remained infamously dull, but at least some of the subplots were moderately absorbing. Des Walker generally out-thought Heskey while Izet and Lennon were more industrious and precise than Wednesday's leaden midfield. Another duel, 'Elliott against Carbone', supplied the game's only goal. Carbone was about to sum up some more of his fleet-of-foot trickery when the raw-boned defender carelessly forced him to the ground. The referee awarded a penalty and the Italian scored. "From where I was, it looked like he had lost balance. It looked harsh, but I might be proved wrong," Martin O'Neill, the Leicester City manager, said.

In truth, it was an incident without malice, the kind of lazy, thoughtless challenge that deserved to settle the game. Wednesday at last found some rhythm after scoring and both Hirst and Whittingham had good chances well saved by Keller.

Finally, by the referee's watch, it was time to finish and all the other bearers of watches left to hear tales of relative daring and adventure from those who had shown the good sense to go shopping or tile the bathroom wall. All we had to offer in return was a preposterous tale about a dark-haired man in white boots.

SHEFFIELD WEDNESDAY (4-4-2): K Prestridge — J. B. Hinchliffe, J. B. B. Hinchliffe, D. Walker, S. Nicol — P. A. Cato, G. Hyde (sub: W. Collins, 18), P. Atherton, R. Humphries (sub: G. Williams, 60), S. Carr, D. Mabbett, D. Whittingham (sub: K. Hirst, 10), S. Prior (sub: A. Colins, 80), M. Elliott, S. Welsh — P. Karsik, R. Seivage (sub: G. Parker, 82), N. Lennon, M. Izet, S. Gopey — S. Carbone (sub: G. Fenton, 82). E. Heskey (sub: P. A. Bokobza).

Chelsea's flair fails to hide flaws in defence



CHELSEA 4
SOUTHAMPTON 2
By Brian Glanville



Nelson, found, of all people, Southampton's big centre back, Monkou. He brushed off Duberry and shot home off the legs of De Goye.

Earlier, from yet another long ball, De Goye, badly exposed by his insouciant defence, did well to thwart the onrushing Ostendorf, with one large hand. "Overall, of course," Gullit said, "I'm quite happy about the game." Which was perhaps understandable, less so when he described his team as "very very solid".

Certainly in the first half Chelsea made Southampton look inept. Their second goal came on the half-hour from a short corner put over from the left by Zola. Poyet got in a header. Todd blocked on the line, but Leboeuf headed in the rebound.

It was the beginning of five fearful minutes for Southampton. On 33 minutes, Le Saux crossed from the left to the far post, where Mark Hughes headed the third goal. Two minutes later and wizardry by Zola on the right enabled Poyet to side-foot the fourth. "We actually passed into the path of Wright," Jones said, with disgust.

Ringing the changes once again, Gullit restored Zola to the attack, though he was not very pleased with him, eventually substituting him with Vialli, while Poyet did not get on.

"We learned more from the second half than from the first half," Gullit said. He would have learnt that his attack is vibrant; even in that second half, Poyet hit the bar and Hughes should have scored again.

"I told the boys before the game that if we played well then that would be a bonus," Little said. "People should not judge my side on that display. The result was everything. We can relax a bit now. But his defence will hardly do."

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midway through the second half as

the most important that Dwight

Yorke has scored for the club. It is

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Carling Premiership challenge,

with that game against Barnsley.

Referee: A. Vialli.

fact, came from such tactics. With Chelsea a goal up by Petrescu after nine minutes — he was allowed to advance and chip the ball in off the post — Le Saux carefully covered a through ball and steered it back to his goalkeeper, De Goye.

De Goye, already criticised for his errors in the air, now showed himself to be erratic on the ground. True, in a better-ordered world, the dubious law that makes goalkeepers kick out back passes would not exist, but exist it does and goalkeepers are well advised not to dwell on the ball as De Goye did so dangerously. So Davies, no respecter of full-time Dutch giants, nipped in and swept the ball away from him and into the net.

Southampton's second goal, 15 minutes into the second half, came when Gullit admitted Chelsea's offside trap broke down. Another long boot, this time from

Oliver Holt
Bolton have bounced back into the FA Carling Premiership looking far better equipped to cope with the strains of the top division than they did the last time. Their first game at the Reebok Stadium, though, will still have something of an air of early-season desperation about it for their visitors.

Suddenly, everything seems to be coming together for Colin Todd's team. The signing of Peter Beardsley has added some genuine class to a side that was already looking reasonably assured amid lofty company and the imminent arrival of Mark Fish, the South Africa defender, signed from Lazio for £2 million, will strengthen the team further. Fish is unlikely to play tonight because his work permit has not yet been processed.

Bolton have won, drawn and lost in their opening three games, but they will be favourites to add three points in their new home.

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Referee: A. Vialli.

the problem, though. Howard Kendall's side look lightweight in midfield — where Slaven Bilic is playing with the class that Evertonians appreciate.

Kendall has had one piece of good news in the recovery of Andy Hinchliffe, who has not played since December after suffering a cruciate injury. He came through his second match in four days for the A team on Saturday.

Bolton were on the wrong end of a Barnsley backlash from their 6-0 defeat at home to Chelsea in their last match, but they should be too strong for Everton tonight.

BOLTON WANDERERS (4-4-2): K Brannigan — J. Phillips, G. Taggart, G. Bergkamp, R. Elliott — P. Franks, A. Thompson, J. Pollock, R. S. Williams, N. Southall — T. Thomas, D. Watson, S. Bolas, T. Phelan — G. Stewart, D. Williamson, G. Farrelly, D. Ferguson, N. Bamby.

EVERTON (4-4-2): M. G. Heskey — S. Welsh — P. Karsik, R. Seivage (sub: G. Parker, 82), N. Lennon, M. Izet, S. Gopey — S. Carbone (sub: G. Fenton, 82). E. Heskey (sub: P. A. Bokobza).

■ TELEVISION: Today: Live on Sky Sports, 8pm.

■ PREDICTION: Bolton to win by one goal.

ASTON VILLA 1
LEEDS UNITED 0
By Richard Hobson

TO A starving dog, the skimpiest of bones represents a banquet. Victory, equally, is a feast to the team at the foot of the table, no matter how unconsciously achieved. So, after a club-record start of four successive defeats, Brian Little, the Aston Villa manager, could be forgiven his short-term view of this fixture at Villa Park.

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Referee: P. Jones.

TOWNSEND, directed each of two attempts to clear closer to peril. Staunton in the second minute and then prevented Grayson from giving a surging run the finish it deserved. Collymore placed a free header wide of the far post shortly before the interval, but drew the ball wide of his bearings on the hour.

Bosnich, too, reacted swiftly to deal with Ribeiro, who had jinked around Southgate and Ehigbo. The best opportunity for Leeds, though, fell to Kewell, JR, the Australia international, who tarnished a creative performance along the left by shooting into the side-netting with Villa caught square.

ASTON VILLA (4-4-2): M. Brannigan — G. Southgate, S. Staunton, U. Grayson, K. Collymore (sub: F. Nelson, 45min), T. Taylor, M. Dapier, S. Grayson, A. Wright — D. York, S. Collymore.

LEEDS UNITED (4-4-1-1): N. Marin — G. Kelly, D. Hirst, S. Southgate, D. Robson — R. Wallace, B. H. Howell — J. F. H. H. Howell (sub: D. Uley, 70), A. H. Howell — J. F. H. Howell (sub: D. Uley, 70).

Meanwhile at the top Blackburn and Manchester United keep on winning — and a young defender catches the eye

Rovers fill in details of challenge

IT WAS, on the face of it, a remarkable statement. As Blackburn Rovers settled into their seats on the bus for the long journey home, Tim Flowers ignored the shrill cries of the autograph-hunters craning their necks behind him and said: "The chances of us winning the title? I wouldn't even talk about it because there would be eight teams laughing at us. To be honest, I think there are eight teams potentially better than us."

Eight? Well, let's see. Manchester United, Liverpool, Arsenal, Chelsea, Newcastle United, that's an arguable five. But eight? Aston Villa? Not on the evidence of the season so far. Leeds United? No. West Ham United? Tottenham Hotspur? Everton? No, no and no. If Flowers was trying to play down Blackburn's chances of winning the league that they annexed so expensively in 1995, then he was trying too hard. Blackburn are not going to finish as low as ninth, that you can be absolutely certain.

Look at the league table, not at Blackburn's name at the top of the FA Carling Premiership, nor at the figure in the points column (although 13 garnered from five games is impressive enough), it is the number of goals scored and conceded that stand out — 15 for, four against. Only Chelsea compare, but they have yet to meet any of the fancied runters, say Liverpool or Villa.

Look at the demolition last Monday of Sheffield Wednesday, challengers for a place in Europe last season, fresh from a solid draw with Wimbledon and with some of their number promising, beforehand at least, a repeat performance this time around. It was festive stuff, strutting, arrogant, marvellous.

And look at the evidence on Saturday. Yes, Blackburn were a class apart from Palace, yes, they were assured and confident where their hosts were merely energetic and erratic, but there was more than that. Blackburn betrayed an attention to detail that bears the hallmark of Roy Hodgson, their manager, and that will serve them well all season long. A good example — a fitness expert, Arnaldo Longarini, brought in from Piacenza, conducted their warm-up before the kick-off, a muscular cross between a line-dancing routine and an aerobics class, while Hodgson, who might have bussed himself elsewhere, stood and watched, very closely, from the sidelines. Attention to



CRYSTAL PALACE 1
BLACKBURN ROVERS 2

By Peter Robinson

detail, nothing left to chance.

It would be stretching a point to say Palace were beaten there and then, but they did not have to wait long. A harmless-looking ball from Ripley, a mistimed jump from Edworthy, a misjudged header from Sutton, pounced, driving home from 20 yards with barely a break in his stride. A professional, clinical finish, Sutton's sixth of the season, and Palace were done for after little more than 22 minutes. Gallacher made it 2-0 shortly afterwards, finishing a smooth move of first-touch passes that ended with Edworthy and Miller, the Palace goalkeeper, in a heap on the floor and the little Scot rolling the ball over the line.

So Palace trudged off at half-time knowing they had got it wrong, having — as Steve Coppell, their manager, later admitted — tried to shackles Ripley and forgotten about everybody else. In the dressing-room, they were greeted by a proverbial plate of red meat instead of tea and re-emerged ready for a scrap. Lombardo, peripheral anyway, was given a supporting role, Dyer taking the lead, his brash replacing the Italian's brain. The young striker pulled a goal back shortly after the restart, too, beating Flowers to a classic example of a route one long ball, but neither he nor Palace threatened an equaliser with any conviction.

Dyer did give Colin Hendry a memorable afternoon's wrestling, it has to be said, or rather he would have done if Hendry had not been knocked silly on the hour, first by an errant elbow, then by Flowers flying through him from behind, then by a heavy fall in one, sickening moment. As he lay motionless on the pitch for eight minutes, surrounded by physios, club doctors and a confused St John Ambulance crew, it appeared as if he was seriously hurt and that Blackburn had lost what Flowers called the "central figure of the whole team, the



Dyer outjumps Valery, but the Blackburn defender had the last word during an impressive away win

mainstay" for a long spell. Totems, though, are made of stronger stuff and although he was unconscious for at least 2½ minutes and was wheeled off to hospital in a neck brace, Hendry went home with the rest of the Blackburn party and was pleading yesterday to be included in the Scotland team to face Belarus at the weekend.

Some people are just suckers for punishment, but sometimes it makes sense to save them from themselves. Concussion is a head injury — Hendry said later that he could remember nothing of the incident — and a rest would probably serve him better.

Blackburn were very, very solid

Unsettled, Blackburn lost a little of their control, but not enough for Palace to snatch a point. The chances came at the other end. Sutton, missing one sitter and converting another only for an offside flag, unluckily, to deny him. No goals, then, not even in the 10½ minutes of stoppage time that the referee accurately allowed. Quite what Leicester City and Arsenal would have made of that is anybody's guess — 5-5, 6-6 — but Blackburn were content to play keep-ball near the the corner flag and Palace were pretty much powerless to stop them.

Blackburn were very, very solid

id," an admiring Coppell said afterwards. "There is an awful lot of firepower in their team. For their first goal, Edworthy, our best player so far this season, was caught and it was a great finish. We might have got away with it in the first division." There was no chance of that happening on Saturday.

CRYSTAL PALACE (1-3-2): N. Miller — N. Edworthy — D. Titter (sub N. Snipey, 50min); A. Lingham (sub H. Hieldbrandson, 90); K. Musical (sub N. Barden, 75); J. Lombardo, A. Roberts, S. Valery, S. Hendry, C. Hendry (sub J. Pearce, 60); J. Kenna — S. Ripley, G. Filzofit, L. Bohnen, K. Anderson, C. Sutton, M. Dahlke (sub A. Anderson, 90). Referee: V. Burge

THERE is a tributary road at Old Trafford that ushers car-park traffic away from the stadium. On match days it is, to those in the know, a place to avoid even long after the final whistle.

Forgetting such advice is not a good idea, unless your idea of fun is sitting bumper to bumper in a blue-tinted concoction of fumes and fuming. Yet it does offer some insight into today's Manchester United supporter. He or she is leaving late — in a Range Rover or a BMW — after enjoying lengthy post-match hospitality.

These are the champagne supporters, enticed to Old Trafford by the seductive glimmer of silverware. They are the good-time charlies who know only United's dominance of the 1990s, know only victory, only trophies, and they have come to expect it as their right.

In his programme notes, Alex Ferguson, the United manager, addressed this all-pervasive feeling of superiority that hangs in the air at Old Trafford. "Manchester United are up there on a pedestal these days, it is our rightful position after dominating the championship in recent seasons," he said. Yet, after this apparently straightforward victory over Coventry City, there was more than a hint of regret etched into a voice that already betrayed a rare uncertainty.

The problem with pedestals is that they are high enough to fall from. United may have won comfortably enough, but it was an uncomfortable afternoon for Ferguson as he witnessed signs of complacency in his side. Such an attitude is anathema to the United manager. He was raised in the shipyards of Glasgow, and, him, every day is a fight, every match a showdown. There can be no room for this idea of invincibility.

Of course, he does not mind the fans thinking that way, but when his players betray a similar sentiment, then the eyes narrow and his face reddens. "We played like a team who felt we could win if we wanted to," he said. "We have had that problem for some time against certain teams and it is not good enough. We are a better team when we show a hunger and determination to get at the game and we didn't do that."

The problem for United is that expectation has become a heavy burden. They cannot afford to under-perform, particularly in the big contests. Inevitably, matches against the likes of Coventry do not possess such a sense of importance and that feeling, generated by the crowd, was clearly transmitted to the players on Saturday.



MANCHESTER UNITED 3
COVENTRY CITY 0

By David Maddock

Ferguson thought, bristling with a repressed anger, has in his mind an antidote. "We have a problem with matches like these. Maybe I will have to change my personnel."

It was not a threat to bring in new signings, but the option of reshuffling his loaded pack to bring in those reserves who have the desire, but few opportunities. United are unbeaten this season and, on Saturday, created a club record of five consecutive league matches without conceding a goal. Ferguson may have a point, though. After an opening goal, rather fortunately crafted when Cole's shot, after 70 seconds, was deflected up and over Ogrizovic, the Coventry goalkeeper, United lost the plot somewhat.

As Gordon Strachan, the Coventry manager, said: "I think the score flatters United. I am very, very happy with my team because everyone played well. You would only call United solid if you call off the line a couple of times and hitting the woodwork solid."

Coventry were unfortunate. Dublin, a United old boy, hit the post with one spectacular overhead kick and should have done far better with a free header from close range. United, in fairness, looked as if they had the capacity to step up a gear if required.

The scoreline was given a gloss that the game did not warrant in the 72nd minute, when a corner by Beckham somehow reached Keane and the ball bounced off the captain's knees to creep into the net. Poborsky, the substitute, added to the injustice with a well-taken goal a minute from time. Ferguson knows, however, that while such a result under such circumstances is ominous for the rest of the FA Carling Premiership, it will do little to unnerve those observers from Juventus and Feyenoord, who were at the game on Saturday.

MANCHESTER UNITED (4-3-2-1): P. Schmeichel — G. Neville, G. Pallister, R. Berg, P. Neville (sub D. Innes, 60min) — D. Beckham, N. Butt, R. Keane, R. Giggs — S. Cole (sub R. Ogrizovic, 66); A. Ferguson — D. Hoddle (sub R. P. Teller, 80); R. Anderson, M. Dahlke (sub A. Anderson, 90). Referee: G. Ashby

Referee: G. Ashby

Barnsley delight in pointless exercise



DERBY COUNTY 1
BARNESLEY 0

By Keith Pike

was important today that we tried to play our way through them. It is the only way we can play. We haven't got the players to hit the ball long. I like to watch the way we play and that is the way we will continue."

What Wilson does acknowledge is his need to recruit a goalscorer. "We need to score goals to stay in this division and we have only got four, which isn't good enough," he said. "That is the harsh reality of the Premiership. My four strikers haven't got a goal between them." The point was underlined by Liddell's three second-half misses and Redfearn's two, Ian Dowie, seemingly surplus to West Ham United's requirements, remains high on Wilson's wanted list.

Like Barnsley, Derby doubtless would settle for finishing the season with four teams below them, as there are at present, and they will be much stronger with the return of Asanovic and Sturridge to full fitness.

Baiano's debut was promising, no more, but he did feature prominently in the decisive moment, drawing the foul from Leese that won the penalty and, having seen his spot-kick saved, stepping aside for Eranio to convert a retake, ordered because the goalkeeper had strayed off forward rather than merely along his line. Baiano and Van der Laan also missed glaring opportunities: like Wilson, Jim Smith knows that he cannot afford such generosity.

DERBY COUNTY (3-1-4-2): M. Poole — G. Doh, I. Smicic (sub P. Hodson, 70min), J. Laurenson, D. Carley, S. Green (sub J. McEwan, 50); R. Van der Stappen, T. Ward, J. Wilson — A. Asanovic, M. Sturridge (sub J. Hendrie, 30); C. Redfearn, D. Barnard (sub D. Sharp, 34); M. Baiano (sub J. Hendrie, 37) — G. Moore (sub J. Wilson, 62); A. Liddle (sub P. Dohson).

Then, when the focus switched from the cerebral to the physical, it was no contest. Barnsley had barely conceded a free kick before Eranio's first-half penalty. Lars Leese, the Barnsley goalkeeper, gathered the ball, looked upfield and rolled it to a defender for one last intricate, patient build-up, doomed, like all its predecessors, to failure.

Is Wilson, understandably reluctant to sanction a wholesale restructuring of his team's methods, prepared to compromise? The answer was emphatic and, it should be said, there is not yet the slightest sign of discontent among those who fill an expectant Oakwell or who on Saturday outsize Derby in their attractive and atmospheric new Pride Park home.

"The one thing we won't do is start whacking it," Wilson said. "It

Redknapp's humour faces a stringent test



WEST HAM UNITED 3
WIMBLEDON 1

By Russell Kempson

against Barnsley, Tottenham Hotspur, Everton, Coventry City and Wimbledon — hardly the most taxing of opening schedules. Wimbledon have taken two points against Liverpool, Sheffield Wednesday, Chelsea and West Ham (their midweek tussle with Derby County was abandoned with the floodlights failed).

This month, reality beckons. Wimbledon meet Newcastle United, Crystal Palace, Barnsley and Tottenham while West Ham face Manchester United, Newcastle, Arsenal and Liverpool. It is entirely

so far, West Ham have accumulated ten points from matches

conceivable that, come October, these two sides' positions in the league will be reversed.

"I'm glad we've got a few points before September," Harry Redknapp, the West Ham manager, said. "I suppose some people would look at it as black September. It will be a very big test for us." Redknapp frequently masks his innermost fears with joviality, an endearing trait. He will probably need every ounce of humour as the Premiership campaign kicks in with a vengeance.

West Ham, though, were good, too good for a Wimbledon line-up that lacked the guile of Leonhardsen, now at Liverpool, and the tenacity and leadership of Jones, now injured. Not so much in the first half, when the offside flags resembled a semaphore convention and consistently interrupted the flow, but more so thereafter.

In the space of seven minutes, soon after the interval, it was all over bar the shouting. Hartson drilled in a sweet 25-yarder, Riper glided in a header from Berkovic's free kick and then Berkovic

galloped away to convert Breckin's incisive pass. Eoku's eighth-minute goal was an irrelevance.

Joe Kinnear, the Wimbledon manager, maintained a defiant stance. "We lost our first three

games of last season," he said. "and we didn't do too bad in the end. Our current position doesn't tell all the truths. We should have at least five points had we taken all our opportunities."

Opportunities, chances. Had they been accepted, West Ham could be leading the Premiership and Wimbledon could lie in mid-table. Yet it is no more than a masquerade, a preliminary skirmish in the overall ball game. Redknapp is not fooled. "I remember when I was in Bermuda on holiday during the summer," he said. "I was sitting round the pool, with my mussels, and I read about the betting of who would be the first Premiership manager to get the sack. If Redknapp can survive September, the bookies said..."

"I tell you what, I will survive September. That's for sure."

WEST HAM UNITED (4-3-2-1): L. Milicic — T. Breckin, M. Repet, R. Ferdinand, D. Unsworth — S. Dowse, J. Hartson — D. Beckham, N. Butt, R. Keane, R. Giggs — S. Cole (sub R. P. Teller, 80); R. Anderson — D. Hoddle (sub R. P. Teller, 80); R. Berkovic — D. Kilkenny (sub E. Eoku, 46); J. Hartson (sub M. Gayle, 66). Referee: G. Pot

Referee: G. Pot

Ferdinand's finesse forces faithful to wait and wonder

Simon Barnes on whether a teenage prodigy can shoulder the burden of expectation at the West Ham football academy

A footballing centre half is usually a big bloke who likes to fanny about on the ball and then gets caught out in some mad foray upfield. The point with Ferdinand is that there are no frills to his game. He eschews the easy back pass and turns the forward neatly to lay a ball into midfield, but there is nothing self-indulgent about it.

Watching him play is an astonishing, rather disquieting experience. There is something almost freakish about his calm, his understanding. Naturally, people have been coming forward to say good things about him. "Immense skill," the West Ham manager, Harry Redknapp said. "Incredible maturity." Roger Cross, the assistant manager of Tottenham Hotspur, added after a game earlier this season: "Many people rate him the best young player in the country. I go further and say he's the best in the world."

Inevitably, he being a West Ham player, people compare him to Bobby Moore. There is, indeed, something of Moore's air of detachment, almost of condescension, a grown-up calmly sorting things out in a kid's game. That bland insouciance makes it seem that he can bear any load of responsibility and worry, even the responsibility and worry that go with so vast a burden of expectation.

It is hard to assess a young player correctly. We spoil the clarity of vision with an excess of hope. It is the same in the parade ring before a very big race. We really want to be about to witness the emergence of the greatest racehorse that ever drew breath. And so we fancy that the potential champion strides better than anything we have ever seen: he fills the eye as no horse has done before. Come the test, come

the disappointment. Usually — but not always. Ferdinand fills the eye all right. The great thing about watching Steve Davis playing snooker at his peak was that he seemed never to have a difficult shot to make. This was because his preparation in previous shots was always eerily perfect. Ferdinand has some of that same unflustered air, the same understanding of position.

The astonishing thing is the ease with which he has stepped across the gulf from reserve-team football to the FA Carling Premiership. It was no trouble at all to him. In American football, the rookie quarterback, slammed on to his back, is told: "Welcome to Pro Ball." In this country, the teenaged footballer, safely dealt with off the ball, hears: "Different game, innit, son?" But it is all one to Ferdinand.

Serene, untroubled, he recalls, to hope-tinted eyes, the casual stroll of Franz Beckenbauer. But the enemies of promise are legion. Which of us is the same at 21 as at 18? Hard enough for anybody, that small but significant chasm of years, but for a footballer it is twice as difficult. Minds and cruciate ligaments are delicate things.

We have all watched a wonderful two-year-old horse and asked a great question. Yes, but will he train on? Of course, the only way of knowing is waiting. Ferdinand must beware the Bill Truscott syndrome, the Anthony Powell character, who was either going to be Poet Laureate or the next prime minister but three. In the end, he gets very interested in the by-products of coal and joins the Coal Board.

Sport has its own patterns of hope and disappointment and we have all learnt how to recognise them. Fact: not all those who find the early going easy go on to great things and not all those who struggle initially are doomed to wasted lives. Another fact: no one who likes football can watch Ferdinand without purring. Promise is a dangerous and lovely thing.



Ferdinand's image

Williams reaches US Open quarter-finals as young Croatian takes Novotna to three sets

Precocious Lucic leaves an indelible impression

FROM DAVID POWELL IN NEW YORK

ANNA KOURNIKOVA is out, so too is Mirjana Lucic, the latest young thing in tennis, but the United States Open women's singles here at Flushing Meadows is not yet back in the hands of the grown-ups entirely. Martina Hingis, the No 1 seed, who this summer became the youngest Wimbledon singles champion this century, has reached the third round without dropping a set and yesterday, Venus Williams, 17, became the first player into the quarter-finals.

Having disposed of Anke Huber, the No 8 seed, in the third round, Williams eliminated another player ranked above her 66th own position in the world. Joanne Kruger, from South Africa, was despatched without fuss, 6-2, 6-3, as Williams continued to succeed where she had failed so miserably, with a first-round defeat, at Wimbledon.

Brad Gilbert, Andre Agassi's coach, wants to coach Williams, saying that she is not "as polished" as Hingis or Kournikova. He left a message on the telephone answering machine of Williams's father-coach suggesting he hand her over, but the call, apparently, was not returned. The spit, without the polish, will do here.

Lucic went out to Jana Novotna, having taken the runner-up to Hingis at Wimbledon to a deciding set after trailing by a set and 4-1. "I should have won. I had the match in my hands," Lucic said in frustration.

John Newcombe, three times the Wimbledon men's singles champion, whose rugged game was built on a strong serve and forceful volleys, opined that Lucic would take the women's game "into another dimension and



Mirjana Lucic, the unseeded 15-year-old from Croatia, serves during her third-round defeat by Jana Novotna

rules governing age, and

Wimbledon and the French Open had declined to let her in. However, grand slam tournaments can make their own decisions.

"I am very happy that I can play, even though I should not," Lucic said.

Already Lucic has delivered

some stinging returns to the media. "Can you win this tournament?" she was asked at her first press conference

here. "That is a very strange question, I have to say," came the reply, in her perfect English, learned at school in Croatia. In a television interview she was asked if she thought she was too young to be playing grand slam tennis; that, she let him know, was a strange question, too.

Rusedski serves up chance of last-eight place

FROM DAVID POWELL

THE partisan British crowd was not there, but the broad smile and bandana were and so, most definitely, was the service. Greg Rusedski won his third match of the United States Open at Flushing Meadows without dropping a set on Saturday. Now he has an outstanding chance of progressing into the quarter-finals today, when he is due to meet the unseeded Daniel Vacek, from the Czech Republic.

Rusedski did not have so much as a break point against him as he defeated Jens Knippschild, from Germany, 7-5, 6-3, 6-1. He served 14 aces, including two at 141mph, beating his previous quickest of 139mph. Providing that Rusedski does not suffer a sudden loss of form of the kind that saw him capitulate against Cedric Pioline in the quarter-finals at Wimbledon, Vacek should not be a match for him.

Vacek has reached the fourth round after defeating two qualifiers and Mark Philippoussis, the No 14 seed. His victory over Philippoussis is not as impressive as it may appear: the Australian's recent form has been poor.

Before coming here, Vacek had failed to win more than two matches in any of his 15 tournaments since reaching the Rotterdam final in March. Ten of his defeats came in the first round. In the Rotterdam semi-finals, he put out Goran Ivanisevic, which, like his victory over Philippoussis, should not be overstated. The big-hitting Croatian's form has been erratic this summer.

Vacek did not win a set in any of the first three grand-slam tournaments of the year, although Tim Henman had to work hard to beat him in the deciding set in the New Haven tournament three weeks ago. However, if Rusedski can complement his powerful service with the range of forehand passes and top-spin winners off his weaker backhand side that he has displayed in earlier rounds, a quarter-final place should be

his. Henman, incidentally, is expected to miss the tournament in Bournemouth next week, seeking instead a wild card to compete in Tashkent.

With three seeds — Ivanisevic, Philippoussis and Alex Corretja, from Spain — cleared from his quarter of the draw, Rusedski would play either Felix Mantilla, the No 12 seed, from Spain, or Richard Krajicek, the unseeded 1996 Wimbledon champion, from Holland, in the last eight. Spectators would no doubt prefer Mantilla to progress because Krajicek versus Rusedski would be a match of short rallies.

Rusedski's match on Saturday was largely tedious. The applause seemed to become quieter with every game, the initial appreciation of Rusedski's stunning services giving way to frustration at the paucity of rallies. Occasionally, the Briton would bring out something from the back of his cupboard. "If

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people just talk about my serve, they are missing out on my returns and my ground shots, so I will surprise them a few times," he said.

Krajicek progressed without playing after Corretja had withdrawn through injury. The Dutchman said that he regarded the walkover as an opportunity lost to raise his confidence. "I have not beaten too many high-ranked players in the last couple of months," he said.

John McEnroe watched Jonas Bjorkman, from Sweden, eliminate Gustavo Kuerten, the No 9 seed and French Open champion, in straight sets and described his backhand return as "a thing of beauty". Kuerten's defeat was a harsh blow for Brazilian sport. A supporter being interviewed for television during the match said he was "as popular as any soccer player in Brazil right now".

EQUESTRIANISM

Beerbaum proves faultless

FROM JENNY MACARTHUR IN MANNHEIM

LUDGER BEERBAUM, of Germany, the 1992 Olympic champion, produced ecstatic scenes at the European showjumping championships here yesterday when he and Sprehe Ratina, aged 15, won the individual gold medal after completing the three days of competition without incurring any faults.

His faultless performance in yesterday's two-part final — which followed the team gold medal he won on Friday — brought the 20,000-strong crowd to its feet. As Beerbaum, 34, crossed the finish line, he hurled his cap in the air and then flung his arms around the neck of his Hanoverian mare.

The winner of an Olympic team gold and an individual silver medal with her previous rider, Piet Raymakers, Sprehe Ratina's record is the all-time greats of the sport. In 1993, they won the World Cup; the following year, they gained team gold at the world championships; and, in Atlanta last summer, she won a second Olympic team gold, but had to be withdrawn from the individual contest after injuring a hind leg.

Yesterday, she was never even close to making a mistake. Hugo Simon, of Austria, on his dual World Cup-winner, ET, had shadowed Beerbaum throughout the competition, but, unable to compensate for his four faults in the opening speed leg, had to settle for the individual silver medal. Willi Melliger, of Switzerland, the 1993 European champion and Olympic individual silver medal-winner, took the bronze on Calvaro for the second successive occasion.

Britain's best performance came from Geoff Billington, on It's Otto, who finished tenth. Robert Smith, whose stylish riding has been a feature of these championships, dropped from eighth to twelfth after Senator Tees Hanauer, 17, faulted at fence ten, an airy white upright.

The Whitaker brothers usually to the mainstays of the team, both dropped out of contention. Michael, winner of the individual silver medal in 1995, withdrew, deciding that his young horse, Ashley, on whom he was in twentieth place, had done enough. John Whitaker and Welham, thirteenth overnight, withdrew

before the second round after Welham faulted at the water — an influential fence in the first round — and then, in a repeat of his mistake in Friday's Nations' Cup contest,

The first three places —

filled by Beerbaum, Simon and Emile Hendrix of Holland — remained unchanged after the first round. In the final round, in which riders again went in reverse order of merit, Hendrix had eight faults and dropped to ninth place. Simon, 35, gained a second clear round which meant that Beerbaum could only afford one fence down. As the crowd held its breath, the cool-headed German jumped boldly round the ten-fence course to produce his fifth successive clear round of the championships.

However, the result was

subject to confirmation, after an inquiry by the International Equestrian Federation last night into a possible breach of rules by Simon.

RESULTS: 1. Sprehe Ratina & Beerbaum, Ger; 2. ET (H. Simon, Austria) 4.35; 3. Calvaro (J. Whitaker, UK) 4.35; 4. Welham (J. Whitaker, UK) 4.35; 5. It's Otto (G. Billington, UK) 4.35; 6. Tees Hanauer (R. Smith) 22.87; 12. Senator Tees Hanauer (R. Smith) 22.87; 16. Virtual Village Welham (J. Whitaker) 23.05; 20. Virtual Village Ashley (M. Whitaker).

SQUASH

Jansher not interested, says Power

FROM COLIN MCQUILLAN
IN HONG KONG

GREAT Britain's interest in the Cathay Pacific Hong Kong Open ended when Peter Nicol fell to a superb attacking semi-final performance from Jonathon Power, from Canada, on Saturday.

The 24-year-old Scot saw it merely as a disappointing start to the season after a two-month training break. Jansher Khan, the world champion, who went on to defeat Power 14-15, 15-12, 15-2, in the 65-minute final yesterday, saw it more as confirmation that he could continue to rule the game as long as he cared.

This Hong Kong title was Jansher's eighth and his 82nd big victory in the PSA World Tour and he said: "I will have bad days and people will beat me here and there, but before they can claim to be approaching the No 1 spot, they have to beat me three, four, or five times."

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RUGBY LEAGUE

Oldham gain some solace

OLDHAM Bears ended their traumatic Stones Super League season with a victory, even if it did come too late to preserve their top-flight status. Tries by Howard Hill, Paul Davidson and Ian Russell, plus four goals by Francis Maloney were enough to give the home supporters some solace after a miserable season.

Warrington were hardly in contention in the first half when Oldham, showing far more commitment than on some occasions this season, adapted better to the driving rain and slippery conditions.

They led 10-6 at half-time.

Swann having reduced the lead just before the interval when he slid over in the corner.

Russell pushed through tackles by Tatupu and Stevens to score the home side's third try, which Maloney converted to give him a 16-6 lead. Warrington replied with two tries by Salesi Finau, but a couple of penalties by Maloney kept Oldham in front.

Gary got his second try seven minutes later by capitalising on a kick from Davis, who then put Castleford six points ahead by adding a conversion.

Salford Red staged a rousing second-half comeback to win 37-18 and prevent Halifax

area flooded at the end. Sheffield looked poised to earn a point when Wood followed up his own kick to score a 67th-minute try that converted to level the scores at 10-10. But Castleford snatched victory two minutes from time with a 30-yard penalty from Danny Orr, the substitute, after Sheffield were penalised had been been.

Both teams found it hard going as the dreadful conditions made handling difficult and the only chances created came from kicks.

The first score was not until

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the thirtieth minute and the Eagles gained the early advantage with two goals. However, while the Eagles were down to 12 men, Castleford levelled with a 48th-minute try from Richard Gay, who beat Crowther to catch Ford's high kick on the line.

Gary got his second try seven minutes later by capitalising on a kick from Davis, who then put Castleford six points ahead by adding a conversion.

Salford Red staged a rousing second-half comeback to win 37-18 and prevent Halifax

ROWING

Coxless four charge into semi-final

FROM MIKE ROSSWELL
IN AIGUEBLETTE, FRANCE

GREAT BRITAIN'S coxless four of James Cracknell, Steve Redgrave, Tim Foster and Matthew Pinsent duly booked their place in the semi-finals of the world championship yesterday, despite being forced into a nerve-racking wait after the start of the competition had to be postponed for three hours because of strong winds.

Britain held first place approaching the finish but an easing-up allowed the re-formed Italian crew, with three double world champions on board, and Slovenia to close up fast. However, Britain were clearly playing cat and mouse with their opponents and the main interest centred around who would finish second. Slovenia took that honour from Italy after a photo-finish.

David Tanner, the British team manager, said before the race that "the sheer raw power of the crew in final preparation promised something that we have not seen before". There is clearly still plenty to come.

Both the women's pair and double scull followed the example of the men's four and achieved first places in their heats. Dot Blackie and Cath Bishop, in the pair, pipped America, Denmark, and Australia in a blanket finish. The British win came as a result of a storming second 1,000 metres that confirmed their pre-championship status as medal contenders. The double scull of Miriam Batten and Gillian Lindsay suffered the unsettling experience of a broken seat before their race.

The British men's light-weight eight ended their first day "frustrated and determined to do better". They produced a storming 1min 23sec first 500 metres, the fastest of the day, but failed to find the pace when Canada attacked at 750 metres, and finished second. A repechage beckons on Tuesday, as it does, somewhat unexpectedly, for Rob Thatcher and Ben Hunt-Davis in Britain's top coxless pair. They were led home by Italy.

GYMNASTICS

New format comes into play

BY PETER TATLOW

THE gymnastics world governing body, the FIG, has designed a new package for the world artistic championships that will be unveiled in Lausanne this week, with compulsory exercises abolished after years of controversy about their overall usefulness.

Purists may miss them, but, for the spectator and the lower-placed nations, they have become tedious. The world team event is now voluntary exercises only and the scores of the individual gymnasts from that competition will qualify them for the top 36 overall final, the apparatus finals and a new event — a play-off for the top eight teams.

Another of the new regulations — and one that has caused raised eyebrows — is that gymnasts must be 16 and over to qualify for the world championships. That means Lisa Mason, 15, the British champion, from Huntington, will not be able to participate.

How the new regime will affect the top order remains to be seen. At the Olympic Games in Atlanta, Russia, China, Ukraine, Belarus and the United States, while the United States, Russia, Romania and China occupied the women's leading places. Qualification for the Sydney Olympics does not start until the next world championships in China in 1999, so Britain can take the

opportunity in Lausanne to assess the new format without being under pressure.

The four British Atlanta Olympians — Lee McDermott, the British champion, Dominic Brindley, Sonia Lawrence and Annika Reeder — will all participate in Switzerland and, although they will not expect to be among the medals, they will hope to ensure that Britain finishes in the top 12 teams. A place in the top 12 will be the measure for an Olympic team place in the 1999 world championships.

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Rob Hughes witnesses the enduring passion of a triathlon legend

Belgian Iron Man shows his mettle

The Iron Man cometh; or, at least, he came briefly to the city of Bath yesterday, where Luc Van Lierde, a 28-year-old Belgian, conquered time, tide and tempest to win one of Britain's most exacting triathlons. He is a phenomenon in a sport that takes competitors to the limits over three consecutive marathons — swimming in the River Avon for 1,500 metres, cycling up and down the gruelling Bathwick Hill for 40 kilometres and then completing the journey by running four laps around the historical city, a distance of ten kilometres.

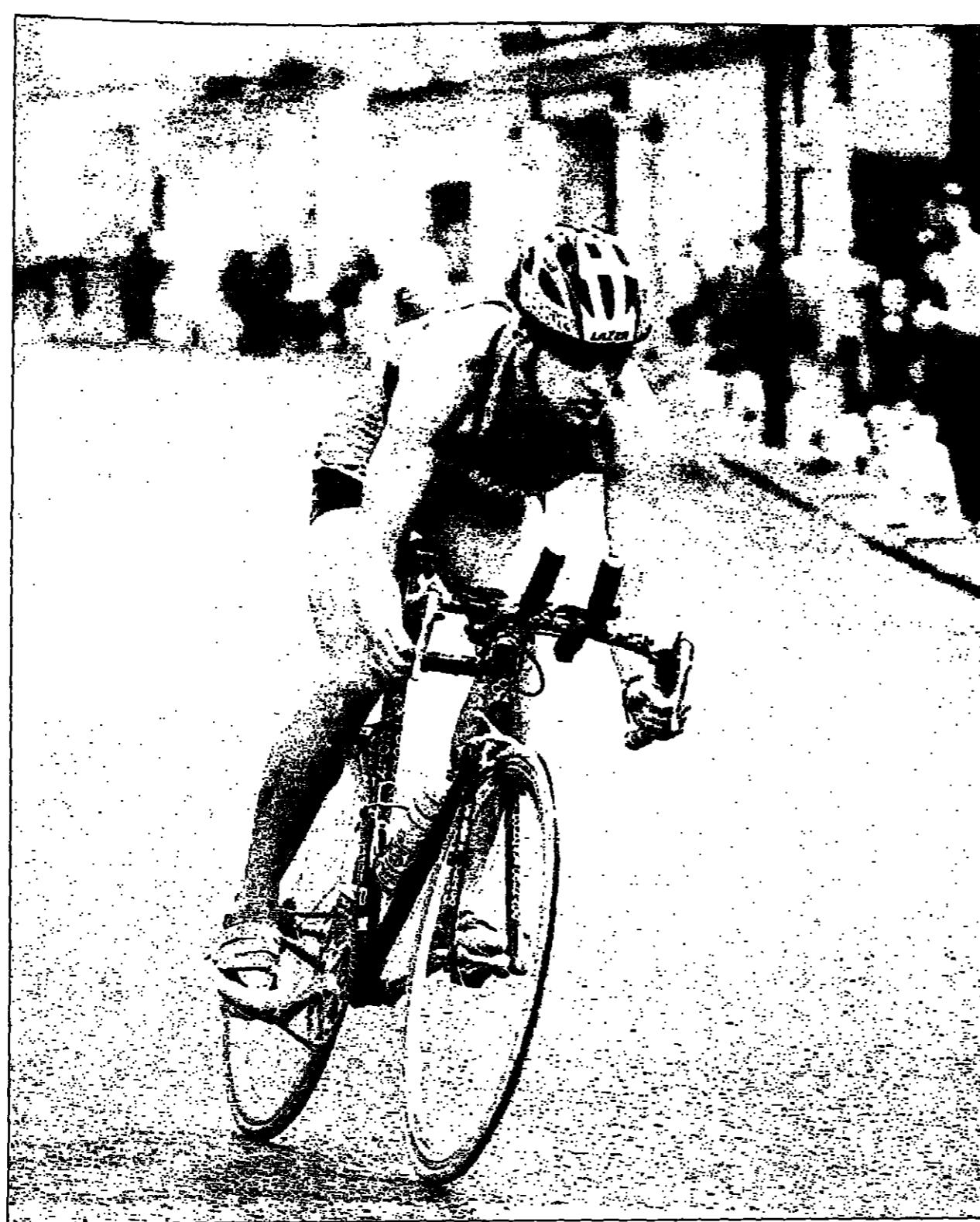
For Van Lierde, it was effectively a training distance, a contest against the course and the violent climatic elements, rather than those seeking to beat him. The Belgian recently posted a 2hr 36min marathon... and before anyone raises an eyebrow about that time, consider that Van Lierde had run the 26.2 miles immediately after cycling 112 miles — and that straight off the back of a 2.7-mile swim.

He was in Bath yesterday to come down to the spirit, if not the level, of almost 400 intrepid Britons, ranging from those who had never competed in a triathlon to those gearing themselves towards Olympic performance.

Into the brown and murky River Avon, Van Lierde, slender but with highly-defined muscle on every part of his body, did not look so very special. The storms had whipped up the swell and the tide on the river so that even those who have swum this annual event before found themselves almost going backwards. They had to swim close to the shelter of a huge wall and though Van Lierde, completing the 1,500 metres in 20 minutes exactly, admitted he found the current testing, then so did David Wilkie.

The 1976 Olympic Games 200 metre breaststroke gold medal-winner was not competing directly against Van Lierde, but had entered himself in the relay event, in which he swam, another man cycled and a third ran.

Now 43 and ten years away from serious training, Wilkie found the waters more testing, apart from the cold, than the Channel, which he swam three years ago. "You can never take the competitive



Out on his own, Van Lierde is in splendid isolation during the cycling phase of the triathlon in Bath yesterday

spirit out of a real competitor," he said. "Today rekindled the feeling of how tough it used to be, but then I had the carrot of swimming for gold; here it was for a bit of fun, to test myself again."

Wilkie's runner yesterday

was Nick Bourne, a former British 400 metres hurdler who opted out of international sport, finding it too political and too riddled with drugs. Bourne is taking a sabatical from working for a sports management company to run 6,250 miles in 174 days, from Alexandria, in Egypt, to Cape Town, in South Africa. The run starts in a fortnight, will involve 45 miles a day and, with Bourne describing it as "a spiritual odyssey", is aimed at raising funds for Save the Children and the Born Free Foundation.

You may get the impression that yesterday the West Country was a place for obsessives, but it was also for human beings who like to test their mind and body to the limits.

CYCLING

McGregor makes do with pursuit bronze

By PETER BRYAN

THERE was no gold medal for Yvonne McGregor in Perth, Australia, yesterday, the closing day of the world track championships. She had to settle for bronze in the 3,000 metres pursuit, but maintained Britain's record of a medal in every championship series since 1991.

Pre-championship events, particularly the World Cup competition in Athens last June, when she beat the Olympic champion, Antonella Bellutti, indicated that McGregor would be a serious challenger, but neither appeared comfortable yesterday. Bellutti was beaten in a quarter-final by Natalia Karmanova, who later lost in the final to Judith Arndt, of Germany, the Olympic bronze medal-winner.

The 20-year-old Arndt defeated McGregor in the semi-final, but McGregor took the bronze because her time was faster than that of the other losing semi-finalist, Lucy Tyler-Sharron, of Australia, who was beaten by Karmanova.

Arndt was quick off the mark against McGregor and led for the first seven of the 12-lap race. The British champion



McGregor: faded

HOCKEY

England save face after humiliation

England 3
Australia 4

By SYDNEY FRISKIN

ENGLISH pride was restored at Milton Keynes stadium on Saturday when Australia were driven to the limit of their powers before snatching victory with only four minutes to spare in the second of two international matches.

The bitter memory of the 10-0 drubbing by Australia at Basingstoke on Thursday night was obliterated with England establishing a 3-1 lead by half-time. The advantage was held until well into the second half, when fate dealt the home side a cruel blow.

Terry Walsh, the Australia coach, expressed his relief at the end of what he described as an excellent match. "We got ourselves into a trap and struggled throughout the first half, but to come back and win after being 3-1 down was not a bad effort," he said.

Garcia, England's man of the match, said: "On Thursday, we did not play international hockey, but this time, we showed wonderful concentration."

ENGLAND: J. Mason, J. Wyatt, J. Hall, A. Humphrey, B. Sharpe, J. Peacock, W. Waugh, C. Mayer, R. Garcia, J. Caprilli, O. Hall, N. Thompson. Substitutes used: R. Crutchley, J. Dunn, M. Smith, S. Davies, J. Heffernan, J. Stacey, D. Elmer, P. Gaudion. Limples: P. Edders and A. Schellens (both Holland).

brilliant match-winner by Davies.

There could hardly have been a more heartening start for England. Giles converted a short corner in the third minute and, after Stacey had levelled the score six minutes later, Giles hit the target again from another short corner for a 2-1 lead. England went further ahead in the 26th minute when Crutchley scored on the follow-up from another short corner, but it was all too good to last.

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SPORT IN BRIEF

Agostini landmark equalled by Doohan

MICHAEL DOOHAN'S complete dominance of the 1997 world 500cc motorcycling championship continued yesterday when he won the Czech Grand Prix in Brno. Doohan, who has already secured his fourth successive world title, won for the eleventh time in 12 races, equaling the record set by Giacomo Agostini in 1972. Doohan, who crossed the finishing line on one wheel, was almost 15 seconds in front of Luca Cadalora of Italy.

Carl Fogarty, of Great Britain, closed the gap on John Kocinski, of the United States, in the ninth round of the world superbike championships in Assen, Holland yesterday. Fogarty, riding a Ducati, won the second of the afternoon's two races and finished second to Kocinski in the first to move to 312 points in the standings, just two points behind Kocinski, the leader, with three rounds to go in Spain, Japan and Indonesia.

Price loses out

BOWLS: Mary Price saw her winning run come to an end at the Atlantic Rim Championships in Llandrindod Wells yesterday when she lost to Betty Morgan, 18-25, in the tenth round of matches. Margaret Johnston, of Ireland, the former world champion, stepped in to take full advantage of Price's defeat. She went back to the top of the overall standings after wins over On-Kwon-Au, of Canada, and Maria Cabrera, of Argentina. Jo Peacock, the defending champion, from South Africa, moved into third spot behind Johnston and Price after a 25-11 win over Jean Joubert. Peacock provides the opposition for Johnston tomorrow.

Dobson shares lead

GOLF: Helen Dobson, of Great Britain, had a round of 65, seven under par, to share the lead after the first round of the State Farm Rail Classic in Springfield, Illinois. Dobson, whose only LPGA victory came at this event in 1993, had four consecutive birdies on the outward nine, but missed a six-foot birdie putt on her 17th, the par-five 8th, that would have given her sole possession of the lead. Sherri Steinhauer and Dana Dornman, of the United States, share the lead. Steinhauer had eight birdies and a bogey while Dornman had an eagle, six birdies and a bogey. Tina Barrett is a shot further back.

Defeat for Boardman

CYCLING: Chris Boardman suffered a rare international time-trial defeat yesterday when he was beaten by Abraham Olano, of Spain, in the 61-kilometre Grand Prix in Brussels. Olano finished in 1hr 9min 2sec after leading throughout. Boardman lost time on the Spaardt at every check to complete the course in a time of 1hr 10min 22sec for the full distance; earlier, he had dropped a drink handed up by his manager at the half-way point. Boardman won the trial last year and in 1993 and starts in the Tour of Spain on Saturday.

Richardson makes mark

GOLF: Ian Richardson claimed his maiden PGA European Seniors Tour victory yesterday when he won the Motor Seniors Classic at Goodwood Park with a final round of 71 and a total of 208, eight under par. Richardson, 51, in his first season on the Tour, struck the decisive blow on the last hole of the tournament, putting a 30-yard bunker shot to two feet. It led to the fourth birdie of his round and it gave him a one-shot victory over Eddie Pollard, the former Ryder Cup player, and Deray Simon, of the United States. Richardson won £12,500, the biggest prize of his career.

THE SUNDAY TIMES

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WORD-WATCHING
Answers from page 51

ABHORRIBLE

(a) A fancifully formed adjective from *abhor*. "Hamlet's uncle, Claudio, seems to me to be the most that can be borne of one purely abhorrible."

FRABIOUS

(a) A nonsense-word invented by "Lewis Carroll" (C. L. Dodgson) apparently intended to suggest "fair" and "joyous". Kipling, *Stalky & Co.* 1899: "You're a dirty little schoolboy. Besides being frabious, you're immoral."

DAKHMA

(b) A tower of silence for exposing the dead. The Persian word. Also *dakhma*. "The dead are to be left on the appointed places (*dakhmas*) and exposed to the vultures and wild dogs."

CHINO

(c) A cotton twill cloth, usually khaki in colour. Also (usually plural) a garment, especially trousers, made of this cloth. From the American Spanish *chino* toasted, referring of its usual colour. "Her skirt was nicely tailored of some fine khaki material, or maybe the stuff is called chino when it joins the aristocracy."

SOLUTION TO WINNING CHESS MOVE

1... *trap* the knight on f6.

Results, page 41

Some enlightenment on a gloomy Sunday

Theoretical physics, we are told, will eventually provide the answer to absolutely everything. But until then it's making do with depressing generalisations, such as this disheartening offering from Professor Stephen Hawking last night: "The more we see, the less special our place in the Universe seems." For those of us in need of cheering up, Stephen Hawking's *Universe* (BBC2) did not seem the place to be.

But, on second thoughts, perhaps it was. For Hawking had the most extraordinary story of human accomplishment to tell — from the Ancient Greek mathematician who used two sticks and their shadows to calculate the circumference of the Earth to within a hundred miles, to Galileo, whose discovery of moons that circled Jupiter rather than Earth cost him his liberty, it's a story of relentless progress that begins with science but which has always

had huge implications for both theology and philosophy.

At the frontier of the story today we find Hawking, whose cruel muscle-wasting disease has made him not so much a scientific presence as a scientific presence. Not, however, so much a presence as to have lost his sense of humour. Proudly he pointed out that he had sold more books about physics than Madonna had about sex. Said that said, I don't know anyone who got to the end of either.

There were few such problems last night for those who despite the best of intentions fell by the wayside during *A Brief History of Time*, Hawking's best-seller. This was a story that, unless the syllabuses have changed drastically, would have been familiar to GCSE candidates everywhere and indeed to anyone who watched the recent anniversary edition of *The Sky at Night*. Ptolemy, Copernicus, Kepler, Galileo, Newton...

the paradigms fell one by one as Hawking pursued his impressively clear objective.

The Earth was not flat but spherical. It was not the Earth that lay at the heart of the solar system but the Sun. It was not our solar system at the centre of the Universe, but... Well, here it did get a bit complicated, as it does whenever the name Einstein is mentioned, but as far as I could tell, it was thanks to Einstein, Doppler and Hubble that we know that the Universe has no centre. The rest of the day's television reminded us that it also has no heart.

Hawking's appearances were limited to those of any able-bodied scientific superstar. He was there at the beginning and end and every now and then he would pop up to muddy the water with talk of black holes and dark matter. Quite what his contribution was to those

REVIEW



Matthew Bond

sections of the script read not by his synthesised voice but by Jeff Rawle was unclear, but as Chapter One goes it had been an impressive start and I look forward to tackling more challenging instalments on days when it is easier to concentrate.

In his own special way Michael Palin covered similar ground, simply by spinning a globe. Suddenly, the centre of our own little

universe, that little blob off the edge of continental Europe that we call home, gave way for the perfect blue circle of the Pacific Ocean. Faced with such pleasing symmetry, you wondered why nobody had thought of travelling round it before. By which I mean somebody British, of course.

If Hawking's series is going to be good for our astrophysics, then *Fifi Circle* with Michael Palin (BBC2) should do even better things for our geography — if only because opening an atlas is a lot easier than wrestling with the space-time continuum. Not that Palin avoided the latter altogether.

He started on the island of Little Diomede, an Eskimo settlement in the middle of the Bering Strait. Thanks to nearby Alaska, Little Diomede is American, but a few hundred yards over the water is Great Diomede, Russian-owned and uninhabited. Between them lies the International Date Line:

"On Great Diomede, it's already tomorrow," observed Palin, solemnly. That was about as profound as it got.

The rest turned out to be a real treat, a skilful blend of the spontaneous and what the suspicious among us might believe was the artfully contrived. Had Palin really learnt a Russian marching song in rainy Kamchatka without knowing that he would end up singing it with the Pacific Fleet Ensemble in Vladivostok? If he hadn't, the gods are on his side.

W hat I had forgotten, since his last jaunt is what good company Palin is. Where others can make the purr-suise of travelogue humour look laboured, he makes it look effortless. He even got away with the old chestnut about Russian baths not having plugs, through the simple precaution of having learnt just about the Russian word for "plugs". The tired old alternative of the Englishman abroad shouting louder and louder would not have been funny, but a firm "yay!" was — several times.

So far, he has travelled by walrus-skin speedboat, stretch limo, seaplane, passenger jet and the rustics-looking helicopter a BBC film crew can ever have encountered. It was to their great credit that they and their 43 pieces of luggage (cue for a good check-in joke) not only got in it but eventually took off.

Finally, by my reckoning it is now 50 years, two weeks and four days since India gained its independence, which seems a funny time for Mark Tully's *Faces of India* (Channel 4, Saturday) to be getting under way. But better late than never and, together with William Dalrymple's *Scenes of the Raj*, Tully's well-selected profiles make up a hugely enjoyable hour for Indophile everywhere.

BBC1

NB: Due to the death of Diana, Princess of Wales, the following programmes are liable to rescheduling.

6.00am *Business Breakfast* (50988)

7.00 *BBC Breakfast News* (T) (5641807)

9.05 *Can't Cook, Won't Cook* New series. (T) (238604)

9.30 *Style Challenge* New series. (1127604)

9.55 *Kilroy* (T) (5175265)

10.35 *Change That* New series. (1259791)

11.00 *News* (T) and weather (4538159)

11.05 *The Really Useful Show* New series. (T) (9578178)

11.35 *Room for Improvement* New series. (2149178)

12.00 *News* (T) and weather (6091081)

12.05pm *Call My Bluff* New series. (9379772)

12.35 *Going for a Song* New series. (9282333)

1.00 *One O'Clock News* (T) (52802)

1.30 *Regional News* (T) (17186159)

1.40 *The Weather Show* (87034772)

1.45 *Neighbours* (T) (7712352)

2.10 *Quincy* (T) (9014514)

3.00 *Through the Keyhole* (7533420)

3.25 *Playdays* (7562555) 3.30 *Postman Pat* (1282420) 4.05 *Little Mouse on the Prairie* (4346604) 4.25 *The All-New Popeye Show* (3239913) 4.35 *Goosebumps*: new adventure series (3635336)

5.00 *Newround* (T) (9758772)

5.10 *Blue Peter* (T) (5654668)

5.35 *Neighbours* (T) (843772)

6.00 *Str O'Clock News* (81)

6.30 *Regional News* (33)

7.00 *This is Your Life* Michael Aspel with a new series (T) (9623)

7.30 *Mastermind* The last-ever final, from St Magnus Cathedral, Kirkwall, Orkney. (17)

8.00 *EastEnders* Bianca keeps the truth hidden from Ricky (T) (8371)

8.30 *Only Fools and Horses* Rodney dreams of becoming a music legend (T) (4178)

9.00 *Nine O'Clock News* (T) (3420)

9.30 *Bloomin' Marvellous* New series. Bitter-sweet sitcom about first-time parenthood (T) (34994)

10.00 *Preston* Front Comedy drama (T) (1547710)

10.40 *Full Circle* with Michael Palin (T) (956265) **WALES:** 10.45 *Answering Back* (53389) 11.10 *Full Circle* with Michael Palin (901975) 12.00 *Film '97* with Barry Norman (12041) 12.30 *Film: Body Parts* (5327958) 1.15 *News* headlines and weather (2451956)

11.30 *Film '97* with Barry Norman New series. Mrs Brown, with Judi Dench and Billy Connolly; *Conspiracy Theory*, with Julia Roberts and Mel Gibson; and *Austin Powers: International Man of Mystery*, with Mike Myers and Elizabeth Hurley. Plus: *The Lost World* and other summer blockbuster (T) (95655)

12.00 *Body Parts* (1991) Jeff Haynes as a criminal psychologist who loses an arm in a car crash and is given a transplant from a dead psychopath. Directed by Eric Red (T) (2229579)

1.20am *Weather* (4615647)

VideoPlus+ and the **Video PlusCodes** The numbers next to each TV programme listing are Video PlusCode numbers, which allow you to programme your video recorder instantly with a VideoPlus+ hand-held device in the room. Please note the programme you wish to record. VideoPlus+ (""), PlusCode ("") and Video Programmer are trademarks of Gemstar Development Ltd.

BBC2

6.00am *OU: The Academy of Waste?* (4168807) 6.25 *Children First* (4178642)

6.50 *Children and New Technology* (T) (5976642) 7.15 See *Breakfast News* (4016062)

7.30 *Smurfs' Adventures* (T) (6114739) 7.55

7.55 *To Me* (T) (5119517) 8.20

8.35 *Music-a-Gram* (T) (3979284) 8.35

Teletoons (T) (7191807) 9.00 *Harry and the Hendersons* (T) (2389751) 9.25

Flash Gordon (T) (3584197) 9.45 *Rocky Star* (T) (8389949) 9.50 *Cartoon* (8377159) 10.00 *Teletoons* (T) (90913)

10.30 *Sherlock Holmes and the Voice of Terror* (1942, b/w) Mystery thriller

transferring the intrepid Baker Street sleuth from Victorian times to the 1940s, enabling him to thwart the Nazis. With Basil Rathbone and Nigel Bruce. Directed by John Rawlins (3085772)

11.35 *The Fugitive* (T) (9023555) 12.20pm

Performance (T) (6007039) 12.30

Working Lunch (12772) 1.00 *The Greedyasians Gang* (T) (7192555) 1.05

Harry Jeremy (T) 1.10 *The Craft* (H) (4432026) 2.10 *Wildlife on Two* (31139604)

2.40 *News* (T) (1543889) 2.45 *Match of the Sevens* (T) (3467791) 2.55 *Real Room* (9) 4.00

Ready, Steady, Cook (48) 4.30 *Gong, Gong, Come* (3382607) 4.55 *Esther* (T) (4333727) 4.55 *The Best of Hay Arnold* (T) (4342420) 4.50 *How 2* (T) (6155975)

5.10 *Look and Cook* (2192604)

5.40 *ITN News* (T) and weather (106438)

6.00 *Home and Away* (T) (860975)

6.25 *HTV Weather* (779284)

6.30 *Regional News* (T) (71)

6.55 *ITV Crimestoppers* (724994)

7.00 *Talking Telephone Numbers* New series with Phillip Schofield and Claudia Winkleman (4791)

7.30 *Coronation Street* The Weatherfield women express their disapproval of home-breaker Natalie (T) (3)

8.00 *Michael Barrymore's Strike It Rich* Michael Barrymore returns with a new series (T) (9559)

8.30 *Police Academy 6: City Under Siege* (T) (832159) with Bubble Smith, David Graf and Michael Winslow. The inept recruits return, this time to halt the actions of a crime lord wreaking havoc on the city's property market. Directed by Peter Bonerz (49607)

10.00 *News at Ten* (T) and weather (13913)

10.30 *Regional News* (T) (824420)

10.40 *The Hunt* Examining a mystery illness that has baffled science and plagued an increasing number of people particularly in the West Country (569081)

11.40 *Hunter* (T) (525217)

12.40pm *Football Extra* (8335918)

1.40 *War of the Worlds* (T) (972005)

3.20 *Rockmania* (T) (3555802)

4.20 *Heifer Sketches* (3452208)

5.00 *Coronation Street* (T) (40208)

5.30 *ITN News* (T) (95531)

10.30 *Newsnight* (T) (114352)

11.15 *Jonathan Miller's Opera Works* A new series of masterclasses analysing operatic works (T) (168975)

12.00 *Weather* (7302753) 12.05am *Playpuss* (Man) (3037563)

12.30pm *Minning for Science* (84937) 1.00 *Mantegna: The Triumphs of Caesar* 1.30 *Greenberg* 1.30 *Art Criticism* 1.30 *The Art of Craft Collections* 1.30 *7579* 4.00 *BBC Focus: Lingus Italian* 4.30 *Royal Institution Lecture* (1376) 5.30 *RCN Nursing Update* (36955)

11.15pm *Jonathan Miller directs* (11.15pm)

11.30pm *Shane's* (T) (7376703)

11.45pm *The Big Picture* (T) (824420)

12.00pm *Shane's* (T) (7376703)

12.30pm *Cor*

